

Environment Protection Authority

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Annual Performance Report

1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

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Highlights from the Presiding Member and Chief Executive

Welcome to the EPA's Annual Performance Report for 2016–17. It is with pleasure that we look back at the significant achievements and progress made over the last financial year.



In June 2017, the EPA entered into its first Heads of Agreement with the Local Government Association (LGA). The Agreement establishes a clear framework for how the EPA, LGA and local councils will work together and provides clarity for the community about each organisation's roles and responsibilities for environmental protection. The implementation of the Agreement coincided with the commencement of the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016* provisions. This important piece of legislation formalised the role of local government in managing local minor nuisances and provides a more modern legislative scheme to reduce the prevalence of litter and illegal dumping across the state. The EPA supported its implementation through a significant engagement and training program with local government that saw 330 officers, from 61 metropolitan and regional councils, attend training in readiness for a new era in environmental services for the community.

In early 2017, the EPA developed a free 'Dob in a Litterer' app to assist with combating litter, specifically targeting material discarded from vehicles. Since the app's launch in February 2017, the uptake by South Australians has been extensive, with 2,150 downloads, 594 reports resulting in 311 warning letters and 169 expiations issued. South Australians have been quick to embrace the app, reaffirming our community's commitment to live in a clean and green environment.

The EPA also celebrated the 40th anniversary of its pioneering Container Deposit Scheme. The scheme, which first came into effect in 1977, has made an important contribution towards fostering a culture of recycling and helping prevent littering from discarded drink containers. During the reporting period, 586 million containers, representing 43,000 tonnes, were returned for recycling. In addition, over \$58 million was given back to South Australians, with a large number of households, sporting clubs, community groups and charities financially benefiting from the scheme.

During 2016-17, the new *Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016* came into effect. This policy provides criteria for reducing the impact of smoke and other air pollutants on communities across the state. The regulation and management of air quality is now in line with leading practices to better protect and improve the health of South Australians, their communities and the environment.

The year was a landmark for strengthening and modernising the EPA's legislative framework. This included the launch of Australia's first orphan-site policy for the management of legacy contamination and the development of leading legislative reforms via the draft Environment Protection (Waste Reform) Amendment Bill. The Bill aims to unlock future potential and drive innovation in the waste management and resource recovery sector with targeted changes to regulation. It provides a suite of reforms to further tackle illegal dumping, promote industry certainty and attract investment to support a more level playing field and a healthy environment. We look forward to seeing the Bill progress to Parliament during 2017-18 and, in doing so, underpin the EPA's leading role in how Australians view waste and waste reform.

In October 2016, the EPA Board endorsed the newly developed Partnerships and Engagement Framework. The Framework outlines the organisation's approach to how and when it will engage with stakeholders and sets out the following three guiding principles for engagement: communication, transparency and accountability. Keeping people informed and involved, and providing opportunities for early and meaningful engagement continues to be a priority for the EPA, and the Framework sets out the type of activities that we will undertake to deliver on this commitment.

Our newly established community outreach service was successfully deployed in response to a dust event that affected the Port Augusta community in early 2017. This issue required not only a sustained effort across the EPA to ensure the effective regulation of the site, but also involved extensive interaction with the local community to understand and address concerns.

The EPA Board recognises the importance of proactive engagement and collaboration with industry, local government and the community. Accordingly, the Board conducted two regional visits to Port Lincoln and the South East, and facilitated a Community and Environment Group forum to hear about local issues, recognise environmental improvements and understand emerging environmental issues more broadly. The Board also held a successful industry Innovation Summit in June 2017 to discuss opportunities for finding new and innovative solutions to environmental challenges, which will continue to be a priority area for the EPA.

Significantly, the EPA achieved accreditation as a White Ribbon Workplace in March 2017. This accreditation recognises our preparedness to identify, prevent and respond to issues of domestic violence and reinforces our commitment to creating a safe and respectful workplace for all staff. We are proud to lead an organisation that is part of a global movement working to end violence against women, and promote gender equality and healthy relationships.

To ensure we deliver on our commitments, we continued to build our internal capability through leadership development and community engagement training. Towards the end of this financial year, we also refreshed our organisational structure, flattening unnecessary hierarchy and best positioning the agency as a modern, agile and high-performing organisation.

During 2016-17, Ms Roslyn DeGaris completed her three-year tenure with the Board and, on behalf of the EPA, we thank Roslyn for her valued service.

We conclude by thanking the Hon. Ian Hunter, Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation and members of the EPA Board for their continued confidence in, and support for, the organisation as a leading, modern regulator. We also thank our dedicated staff for the professionalism, innovation and commitment they have demonstrated in working to ensure we protect the environment, safeguard the community and do our part in providing for a more sustainable and prosperous future for all South Australians.



Linda Bowes
Presiding Member
Environment Protection Authority Board



Tony Circelli
Chief Executive
Environment Protection Authority

Our organisation

EPA role

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is South Australia's independent environment protection regulator. It works to protect, restore and improve the environment through the risk-based regulation of pollution, waste, noise and radiation. By working closely with industry, the community and government, the EPA protects our unique natural environment while supporting economic growth and improving wellbeing. The EPA's aim is a better environment for the wellbeing and prosperity of all South Australians.

Corporate governance

The EPA is a statutory authority, with a Board responsible for the carriage of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* (EP Act). The Board comprises between seven and nine appointed members, whose skills, knowledge and experience collectively meet the requirements of Board membership, as defined by the EP Act. The Board delegates specified powers to others in order to achieve the objectives of the EP Act. While the EP Act is committed to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation, the Board is responsible for making decisions in relation to licensing and environmental authorisations or enforcement, and for providing advice to the minister.

The EPA is also an administrative unit created under the *Public Sector Act 2009*, through which it performs other functions for government, including administration of the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982* (RPC Act). Under the EP Act, the Chief Executive of the administrative unit is also the Chief Executive of the statutory authority and an ex officio member of the EPA Board. The Chief Executive is responsible to the Board for giving effect to its policies and decisions, and for the performance of the EPA's functions.

Functions of the EPA

The EPA exercises the powers, functions and duties of the EP Act and RPC Act to monitor, evaluate and minimise human impacts on the environment by:

- licensing, inspecting and auditing activities that have an impact on the environment
- undertaking environmental assessment of new developments
- delivering pollution avoidance and reduction programs for water, catchments, air, noise and water
- promoting best-practice compliance and resource efficiency programs for licensees
- providing support to local government
- monitoring and reporting on air, noise and water quality
- assessing and reporting on industry monitoring programs
- developing environmental policies
- undertaking State of Environment reporting
- advising on radiation safety regarding non-ionising radiation sources
- monitoring and assessing the use of ionising radiation in medical, research, industrial and mining organisations.

Organisational structure

The EPA's organisational structure as at 30 June 2017 (see Figure 1) seeks to support the effective delivery of functions assigned to the authority by the EP Act and RPC Act as well as the achievement of the EPA's strategic directions.

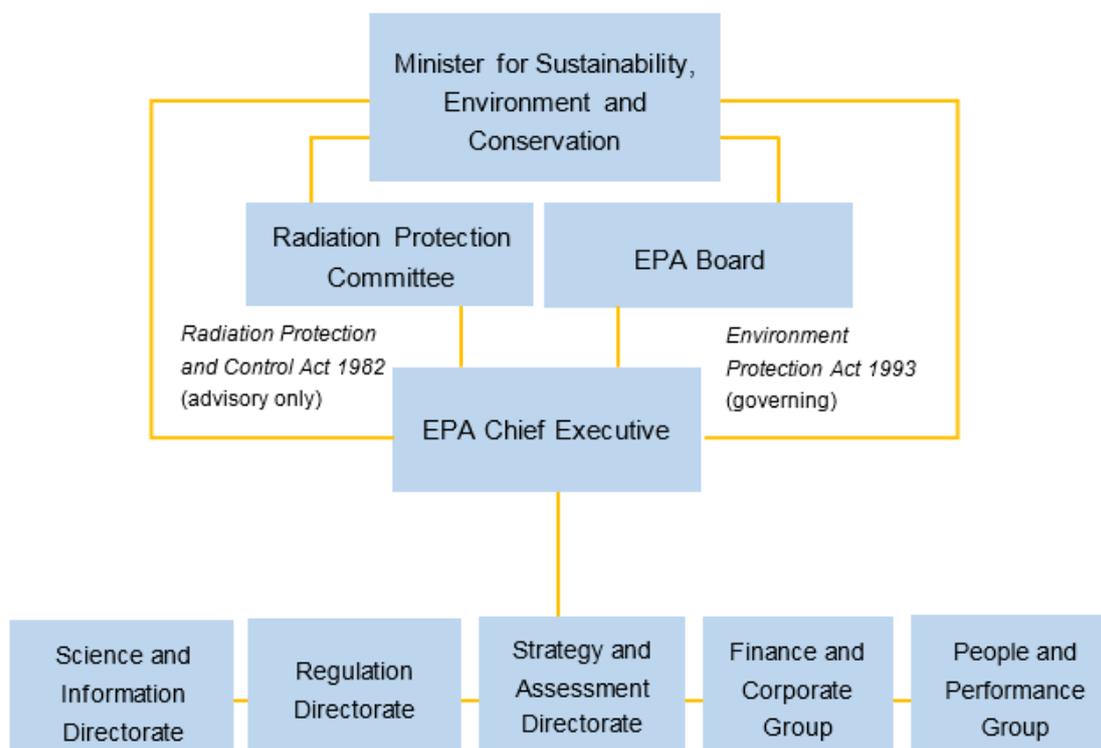


Figure 1—EPA organisational structure

EPA Board

The EPA Board is the governing body of the EPA for matters related to the EP Act and provides strategic direction, develops environmental policy and monitors performance.



Ms Linda Bowes

Presiding
Member



Mr Allan
Holmes

Deputy
Presiding
Member



Mr Mark
Withers

Member



Dr Helen
Macdonald

Member



Mrs Christine
Trenordan

Member



Prof Rob
Fowler

Member



Ms Roslyn
DeGaris

Member until
January 2017



Mr Tony Circelli

Member &
Chief Executive

Members of the EPA Board are appointed by the Governor of South Australia and are chosen for their qualifications, experience and expertise, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1—EPA Board members

Qualifications, experience and expertise	Member
Presiding Member	Ms Linda Bowes
Deputy Presiding Member	Mr Allan Holmes
Environmental protection and management or natural resources management	Mr Allan Holmes Mr Tony Circelli
Industry, commerce or economic development	Ms Linda Bowes Ms Roslyn DeGaris
Local government	Dr Helen Macdonald Mr Mark Withers
Reduction, reuse, recycling and management of waste or the environmental management industry	Mr Mark Withers
Management generally, and public sector management	Mr Allan Holmes Mr Tony Circelli
Environmental law	Prof Rob Fowler Ms Christine Trenorden
Environmental conservation and advocacy about environmental matters on behalf of the community	Prof Rob Fowler Ms Christine Trenorden

Changes to EPA Board membership

During 2016-17, Ms Roslyn DeGaris completed her three-year tenure with the Board effective 22 January 2017.

Appointment of EPA Board members

Mr Mark Withers and Dr Helen Macdonald were reappointed to the Board on 8 August 2016 for a further three-year term. Both were appointed for their practical knowledge of, and experience in, local government.

EPA Board committee listing

Section 17 of the EP Act allows the EPA Board to establish committees or subcommittees to provide advice to, or assist with carrying out the functions of, the Board, or as required by the Regulations. The Risk Management and Audit Committee, and Site Contamination Auditor Accreditation Committee have been established by the Board.

Risk Management and Audit Committee

The Risk Management and Audit Committee was initially established by the Board in March 2009. The role of the committee is to assist the EPA with achieving its objectives by providing a systematic, disciplined approach to the evaluation and improvement of the effectiveness of risk management, internal controls and governance processes. The committee meets three times each year with an additional special meeting to review the EPA financial statements in August each year.

Site Contamination Auditor Accreditation Committee

The Site Contamination Auditor Accreditation Committee was established in August 2008 to advise the Board on the accreditation of site contamination auditors. The committee is required to meet annually.

EPA Board general and special meetings

A total of 11 Board meetings were held during the 2016-17 period. In addition, two regional visits were held at Port Lincoln and the South East, and a Community and Environment Group forum was conducted to hear about local issues. The EPA hosted a Summit with 34 representatives from industry and from across government in June to discuss topics of shared interest relating to environmental performance and to collectively determine pathways for achieving performance improvements for both South Australian businesses and the EPA.

Radiation Protection Committee

The Radiation Protection Committee (RP Committee) consists of 10 members, with a Presiding Member, appointed by the Governor of South Australia. The Presiding Member must be an officer or employee of the department of the minister to whom the RPC Act is committed (that is, the EPA). The specific membership qualifications and expertise relevant to the administration of the RPC Act are prescribed in section 9 of the RPC Act. Section 10 provides that the Governor of South Australia may appoint a suitable person to be a deputy member of the RP Committee. The three-year term of the RP Committee commenced on 27 November 2015 and expires on 26 November 2018. The members and deputy members for the reporting period are listed in Table 2.

Table 2—Radiation Protection Committee members

Members	Section of the RPC Act	Deputy members
Mr Tony Circelli	9(2)a	Vacant
Dr Sarah Constantine	9(2)b	Dr Michelle Nottage
Ms Cara Miller	9(2)c	Mr Costas Kapsis
Mr Graeme Palmer	9(2)d	Dr Kent Gregory
A/Prof Nigel Spooner	9(2)e	Dr Judith Pollard
Prof Eva Bezak	9(2)f	Ms Jill Fitch
Dr Ian Kirkwood	9(2)g	Dr Michael Kitchener
Mr Greg Marshall	9(2)h	Mr Jim Hondros
Prof Pamela Sykes	9(2)i	Dr Michael Lardelli
Ms Iris O'Rourke	9(2)j	Ms Bettina Venner

Radiation Protection Committee meeting outcomes

During 2016–17, the RP Committee met on four occasions and considered many of the radiation protection matters presented in this report. It also discussed and provided expert advice, including the:

- enhancement of medical radiation incident reporting through the Radiation Protection Committee Working Group
- impact of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) Planned Exposure Code and Medical Exposure Code on the South Australian Regulations
- review of licence conditions for rural and remote radiographers.

Alignment with government priorities

The EPA has an important role in meeting government priorities, and its planning framework reflects its alignment to South Australia's Strategic Plan (SASP) and the Premier's seven strategic priorities. The state government has developed seven priorities for South Australia's future that represent areas where the most difference can be made to the lives of South Australians and to the future prosperity of the state.

These priorities are about:

- giving children every chance to achieve their potential in life
- keeping the community and its citizens safe and healthy
- building the state's reputation for premium food and wine
- growing advanced manufacturing as the way for the future
- realising the benefits of the mining boom for all
- creating a vibrant city that energises and excites
- keeping the state's high quality of life affordable for everyone.

In 2014, the Premier announced 10 economic priorities for South Australia under the theme: South Australia—The Place Where People and Business Thrive. South Australia's 10 economic priorities are:

1. Unlocking the Full Potential of South Australia's Resources, Energy and Renewable Assets
2. Premium Food and Wine Produced in our Clean Environment and Exported to the World
3. A Globally Recognised Leader in Health Research, Ageing and Related Services and Products
4. The Knowledge State—Attracting a Diverse Student Body and Commercialising our Research
5. South Australia—A Growing Destination Choice for International and Domestic Travellers
6. Growth through Innovation
7. South Australia—The Best Place to do Business
8. Adelaide—The Heart of the Vibrant State
9. Promoting South Australia's International Connections and Engagement
10. South Australia's Small Businesses have Access to Capital and Global Markets.

The EPA plays an important role not only in ensuring the protection and enhancement of South Australia's environment, but also in contributing to the state's long-term prosperity and sustainability. Working closely with industry, the community and government, the EPA ensures that our unique natural environment is protected while providing for economic, social and physical wellbeing.

EPA strategic directions for 2015–18

In May 2015, the Chair of the Board launched the EPA's *Strategic Directions 2015–18* document, setting the direction for the organisation for the next three years for 'a better environment for the wellbeing and prosperity of all South Australians'. These strategic directions have been implemented across the key operational and strategic areas of the EPA's business.

The strategic directions build on the EPA's achievements over the previous two decades to improve the state of the South Australian environment and provide a framework for the achievement of the objects of the EP Act. The *Strategic Directions 2015–18* provides three key objectives that, together, represent the basis for achieving the EPA's environmental goals in accordance with the state government's priorities.

These objectives are as follows:

1. Support wellbeing and prosperity by creating a place where current and future generations can thrive.
2. Keep people informed and engaged by providing opportunities for early and meaningful engagement.
3. Be an effective and trusted regulator by building trust and confidence, and maximising the potential of the EPA's people.

These objectives continue to inform the EPA's ongoing efforts that are aligned with whole-of-government priorities.

In achieving its vision for a better environment for the wellbeing and prosperity of all South Australians, the EPA continues to develop and apply modern and innovative approaches to tackle environmental challenges, such as:

- major point sources of pollution and waste
- South Australia's legacy issues, particularly contamination and the interface between industry and residential dwellings
- increasing urban and infrastructure development and renewal
- illegal or inappropriate management of wastes and resource recovery
- broader issues of state-wide significance, such as the potential impacts of renewable energy and climate change
- the impacts of mining in South Australia and its associated infrastructure.

Organisational restructure

Following on from the 'Our Shared Future' program launched in 2015-16 and changes to the executive team, the EPA implemented an organisational restructure in May 2017. The new structure comprises five new groupings:

- Regulation
- Science and Information
- Strategy and Assessment
- People and Performance
- Finance and Corporate.

The new structure provides a refreshed focus on priority areas and provides the EPA with the opportunity to better manage future challenges and respond to the expectations of the community, industry and government.

Our strategic framework

Our performance scorecard

The EPA's Performance Measurement Framework allows it to track and report on progress made during the year. The EPA's performance scorecard provides a succinct summary of its key performance measures, as shown in Table 3. The scorecard will evolve over time to improve its outcome focus and to improve how the EPA measures its progress towards its strategic objectives and in response to environmental pressures.

Table 3—Performance scorecard

Objective	Level of control ¹	Performance measure	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 target	2016-17 result
Safeguard communities	L	# of enquiries made to the EPA	11,543	12,217	as required	11,808
	L	# of environmental complaints received by the EPA	3,101	3,521	as required	3,476
	L	# of audit commencement notifications (site contamination) recorded on the Public Register*	55	44	as required	47
	M	Avg. annual concentration of airborne lead within agreed limits at key Port Pirie community sites ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) ^{3,4} <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Pirie Oliver Street • Pirie West Primary School 	0.19 0.25	0.28 0.27	<0.50 <0.50	0.32 0.40
Protect our environment	L	# of new EPA authorisations	148	99	as required	135
	L	# of active EPA authorisations	2,265	2,136	as required	2,135
Enable sustainable urban development	M	% of EPA-advised development application conditions taken up by planning authorities	92%	90%	95%	94%
	H	% of EPA responses to Statements of Intent and Development Plan Amendments made within statutory timeframes ³	93%	97%	100%	100%
	H	% of EPA responses to development application referrals made within statutory timeframes ³	98%	99%	100%	97%
Promote innovative and sustainable industry and mining practices	L	Waste to landfill (kilotonnes) ⁵	905	877	<896	855
	L	% of containers returned for a refund	78%	76%	78%	80%
	H	% of radiation reports from uranium mines and new projects assessed ^{2,3}	100%	100%	100%	100%

Objective	Level of control ¹	Performance measure	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 target	2016-17 result
Sharing information and being transparent	M	# of visits to the website	210,703	205,859	> 200,000	266,395
	M	# of followers on Twitter	738	1,184	1,500	1,630
Effective responses and interventions	H	# of inspections & audits to ensure compliance ^{2,3}	799	701	750	721
	H	% of all new diagnostic X-ray apparatus fully registered under the third party certification program ³	not applicable	88%	85%	87%
	L	# of calls received by the EPA Asbestos Hotline	not applicable	759	as required	947
	H	% of mandatory attendance emergency incidents where ERT on scene within 2 hours ²	100%	100%	96%	100%
High quality services	M	% of surveyed callers either satisfied or very satisfied with overall service provided by the call centre ³	88%	88%	80%	76%
	H	% of CARES incidents & enquiries actioned within three business days	72%	83%	85%	81%
	H	% of licence applications determined within the prescribed (statutory) time period	85%	78%	90%	86%
Be a high-performing organisation	H	% of capability improvement actions completed or on track to be completed within planned timeframes ⁶	88%	83%	100%	80 %

¹H (High), M (Medium), L (Low). ²Linked to the 2016-17 Compliance Plan. ³Performance indicator in 2016-17 Agency Statements. ⁴Moving 12 month average applies to data. ⁵SASP target. *New indicator. ⁶Formerly High Performance Framework.

EPA Corporate Plan

The *Corporate Plan 2016-17* identifies the EPA's priority initiatives for the financial year in alignment with the EPA's *Strategic directions 2015-18*. The plan's focus is centred on providing opportunities for early and meaningful engagement with the community, implementing regulatory reforms that provide a more even playing field for industry development and growth, and continuing to build an EPA culture of high performance.

The plan also includes actions to further develop and support staff to build a culture of professionalism, service excellence and continuous improvement. A number of priorities were developed for implementation in 2016-17 under each objective of the *Strategic directions 2015-18*. The EPA's performance against these priorities are reported in the performance highlights section of this report.

EPA Compliance Plan

The EPA's *Compliance Plan 2016-17* is now in its fourth year of publication and forms a significant part of a suite of corporate documents that supports key focus areas of the 2016-17 Corporate Plan and strategic directions for 2015-18.

The *Compliance Plan* outlines various targeted interventions that provide a focus for the EPA's compliance activity and which are evidence-based and reflect the data sources available to the EPA. These priorities have been identified through the EPA's intervention framework in relation to the following focus areas:

- Set Standards
- Inform
- Enable
- Monitor Compliance
- Enforce.

The EPA has a range of strategies to achieve the regulatory interventions discussed above. These vary from targeted enforcement of legislation to improving administrative systems, with stakeholder engagement a key aspect leading to improved environmental outcomes.

Highlights for the 2016-17 financial year include:

- engagement with key facilities to apply the risk-based approach to regulating air pollutant emissions under the new *Environment Protection (Air) Policy 2016*
- publishing of the EPA guideline: *Preparation and implementation of closure and post-closure plans*, which assisted the EPA with providing effective guidance to industries that are in the process of planning for closure
- ensuring that waste material delivered to disused mines and quarries in South Australia's south-east was dealt with appropriately, following a joint initiative with the Department of State Development
- implementation of a community-involvement approach at new site contamination assessment areas, in line with the EPA's: *Site contamination interim guideline for communication and engagement*
- deployment of covert cameras, with the support of local councils to identify illegal dumping offenders.

Our performance highlights

EPA Corporate Plan snapshot achievements during 2016-17

The EPA's performance against its strategic objectives are discussed as follows.

Support wellbeing and prosperity (Creating a place where current and future generations can thrive)

- A strong, visible EPA presence was maintained in the Upper Spencer Gulf region where the EPA engaged with industry and local communities in Port Augusta following a significant dust event that originated at Flinders Power, and in Port Pirie in relation to Nyrstar's transformation project.
- The new *Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016* came into effect in July 2016, modernising and consolidating legislation in relation to the management of South Australia's air quality.
- Amendments were finalised regarding the Environment Protection (Waste Reform) Amendment Bill 2016, to provide a suite of reforms to tackle illegal dumping, promote industry certainty and attract investment.
- A pre-screening project regarding historical site contamination records was completed. Its objective was to inform an updated and enhanced approach for the EPA to prioritise contaminated sites, with approximately 2,800 historical files being reviewed and prioritised.
- To coincide with the introduction of the litter provisions of the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, the EPA developed a free 'Dob in a Litterer' app to assist with combating litter, specifically targeting material discarded from vehicles. Since its launch, uptake has been significant, with 581 reports received. As a result, 311 warning letters and 169 expiations were issued.
- Support was provided for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission.
- The EPA continued to support the SafeWork SA major hazard facility audit process through cooperation with SafeWork SA in addressing asbestos removal.

Keep people informed and engaged (Providing opportunities for early and meaningful engagement)

- The EPA delivered extensive training for local government in preparation for the commencement of the nuisance provisions of the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*.
- The EPA participated in a number of Business SA and Small Business Commissioner initiatives to support small and medium enterprises.
- A new Partnership & Engagement Framework was launched, outlining the EPA's approach to engagement with stakeholders and setting out guiding principles for engagement, communication, transparency and accountability.
- A new On-line Public Register was implemented in April 2017, providing updated information, enhanced search functionality and an easier-to-use interface. In June 2017, the Register was expanded to include an index of pre-2009 site contamination records.

Be an effective and trusted regulator (Building trust and confidence, and maximising the potential of our people)

- The EPA was well-positioned following acceptance of findings and key actions by the Chief Executive in October 2016 regarding an audit by Deloitte as part of the whole-of-government's Public Sector Audit and Verification System (AVS) program. The audit addressed the EPA's safety culture and its integration into the way of doing business.
- An Air Science Program Review was conducted to inform the effective integration of various components of air science to provide enhanced flexibility and responsiveness.
- Staff development focused on leadership with the implementation of the second Aspiring Leaders Program and support for existing managers.
- A Community Engagement Champion's Program was implemented to address staff capacity and capability.
- A new organisational structure was implemented to better position the EPA as a modern, agile and high-performing agency.

Our focus 2016-17

The 2016-17 Corporate Plan outlines the EPA's key objectives for the financial year. The initiatives and activities undertaken by the EPA to meet these objectives are highlighted below.

Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act

The new *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, passed through Parliament on 18 May 2016, was implemented during 2016-17. This Act formalises the role of local government in managing local nuisance issues to provide consistency of services across all councils and improve service to the community.

In addition, this Act:

- establishes a modern legislative scheme for litter control in South Australia (including tiered offences depending on the type of litter)
- allows for the implementation of a 'dob in a litterer' scheme, which is currently already operating in some other Australian states.

Implementation work undertaken during the year included the:

- development and making of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Regulations 2017 in liaison with local councils
- provision of separate training for the litter and nuisance components of the Act to approximately 500 local government attendees
- completion of a suite of operating procedures and fact sheets for use by local councils
- development and commencement of the 'Dob in a Litterer' app that facilitates public litter reporting
- appointment of a Coordinator Local Government Services to facilitate implementation.

The litter and illegal dumping elements of the legislation commenced operation on 1 February 2017 and the local nuisance elements commence 1 July 2017.

Dob in a Litterer program

To complement the litter provisions of the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, which commenced on 1 February 2017, the EPA launched the app and web-based 'Dob-in-a-Litterer' reporting program. Dob-in-a-Litterer uses the latest technology featuring drop-down menus to identify the type, model and colour of the offending vehicle, a map to determine the exact location of where the littering took place and a photo feature to capture evidence.

A total of 2,150 app downloads and 525 web-based registrations occurred between 1 February 2017 and 30 June 2017. A grace period during the first three months of operation resulted in a total of 311 warning letters issued to owners of vehicles reported for littering. Following the grace period, a total of 169 expiations were issued in May and June 2017.

Waste reform

South Australian waste policies, strategies and programs over the past decade have driven major positive changes to the way waste and resource recovery is managed in our state. The Environment Protection (Waste Reform) Amendment Bill has been developed to provide the necessary underpinning for the EPA to better tackle illegal dumping and achieve a suite of waste reforms in line with the priorities put forward through engagement with the industry and other key stakeholders.

Consultation on a draft Environment Protection (Waste Reform) Amendment Bill 2016 was undertaken between September and November 2016. As part of the consultation, the EPA held a Waste SA conference workshop, forums on the draft Bill in metropolitan Adelaide and six regional areas and were available to discuss the draft Bill and broader waste reforms at a range of key stakeholder events. It is anticipated that the Bill will be introduced into Parliament early 2017-18.

The EPA also continued periodic meetings of the Waste Reform High-Level Advisory Group, to provide strategic advice and high-level oversight as the reform process proceeds, and the complementary Waste Reform Industry Reference Group, which supports more detailed discussion about key projects. The Waste Reform High-Level Advisory Group includes senior, chief-executive level representatives from the waste industry, local government, Renewal SA, the Conservation Council, Keep South Australia Beautiful and Green Industries SA. Four further meetings of the complementary Waste Management Industry Reference Group were also held in 2016-17 to facilitate regular discussion with industry representatives regarding waste reform issues and projects.

The EPA was a strong participant in the Waste SA conference held from 21-23 September 2016 through a keynote presentation by the Chief Executive, senior EPA officers presenting on specific topics and the conduct of a workshop about waste reforms attended by over 100 participants. Waste reform staff also presented to, and participated in discussions with, interested stakeholders, including the Australian Contaminated Land Consultants Association (South Australia) Inc., Australian Industry Ecology Network, Planning Institute of Australia (SA Branch) and Waste Management Association of Australia (SA Branch) committee.

Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy

The new *Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016* came into effect in July 2016, modernising and consolidating legislation in relation to the management of South Australia's air quality.

With the amalgamation of legislative instruments and policies under the new policy, the EPA is better equipped to efficiently and consistently assess environmental and development authorisations, as well as ongoing air quality monitoring. The new policy provides clarity and simplifies the administration of air quality legislation and policies through consolidating the previous air quality, and burning and solid-fuel-heater policies into a single instrument and formalising the application of various guidelines.

The new provisions aim to minimise smoke impacts in populated areas through improved regulation of solid-fuel heaters and the management of burning in the open in a risk-based manner that applies stronger controls in cities and towns than in less densely populated areas. Local councils will continue to manage burning in their area and determine the approach that is best for their communities. The new policy also allows councils the flexibility to issue permits and general notices for the burning of vegetative material within townships where there are no reasonable alternatives. While streamlining council management of burning in the open through consistent and coherent regulation across the state, it also ensures that the ability to burn off for bushfire prevention is maintained.

Perfluorooctane sulfonate and perfluorooctanoic acid ban

On 10 February 2017, the Hon. Minister Ian Hunter announced his intention to ban the use of fire-fighting foams containing the toxic chemicals perfluorooctane sulfonate and perfluorooctanoic acid. The mechanism chosen to undertake the ban is by amendment of the *Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy 2015*.

Public consultation was held on 3 May 2017 and attended by a variety of stakeholders from industry, government bodies and interested members of the public. Stakeholder opinion was sought on a number of elements, including the option to move to completely fluorine-free foams, whether or not to include hand-held extinguishers in the ban and any potential implementation issues that could arise from any of these options.

Management of site contamination

Site contamination management and communications continued to be a priority for the EPA over the 2016-17 financial year. As well as overseeing a number of specific assessment areas, the EPA continued to strengthen its systems, communications approach and guidance tools.

To ensure site contamination is appropriately recognised, considered and addressed throughout South Australia, the EPA provides related advice and guidance, and regulation. While the EPA has a significant role in this respect, state planning and development processes also play a critical part.

Key achievements for the financial year include:

- South Australia's first Orphan Site Program established with a high-level government oversight committee in place
- completion and publication of several orphan site contamination assessment programs at Beverley, Glenelg East, Hendon, South-East Edwardstown, Unley and Thebarton
- assessment of trichloroethene (TCE) at Keswick as the result of non-compliance with a site contamination assessment order
- regulating the delineation of the TCE plume at Clovelly Park and Mitchell Park
- formalisation and publication of the: *Site contamination: Regulatory and orphan site management framework* document
- increased use of voluntary proposals for the regulation of site contamination
- successful installation of two pilot trial vapour intrusion mitigation systems at Beverley
- commencement of the sixth site contamination auditor accreditation process.

Site contamination community engagement

To raise awareness of legacy site contamination issues, the EPA undertook the following communication and engagement activities:

- developed an: *Interim guideline for communication and engagement* that was endorsed by the Board. This guideline was presented to the Site Contamination Auditor Session held on 10 November 2016 in Adelaide and has been distributed to auditors, consultants, site owners and appropriate persons liable for site contamination. The guideline also assists auditors and site contamination consultants with understanding the EPA's expectations of liable parties and provides practical assistance to enable them to meet their community engagement obligations
- implemented a community involvement approach at two new site contamination assessment areas, which are also orphan sites, at Unley and Thebarton. Implementation was in line with the *Interim guideline for communication and engagement*
- improved the accessibility of site contamination information through the web, and via the Public Register
- developed a: *Site contamination overview fact sheet* to better inform the community about legacy site contamination
- developed a community update on vapour intrusion
- undertook a Bore Water Safety campaign, to enable the EPA to build its knowledge of bore water usage.

Site contamination notifications received for 2016-17 are shown in Table 4.

Table 4—Site contamination documentation (recorded on the EPA Public Register)

Documentation (recorded on EPA Public Register)	2016-17
Notifications of commencement of site contamination audit	51
Site contamination audit reports	34
Notifications of termination of site contamination audit	15
Agreements for the transfer of liability for site contamination	4
Notifications of site contamination that affects or threatens groundwater	131
Voluntary site contamination assessment proposals	10

Flinders Power dust event

The EPA has been working with Flinders Power, the Port Augusta City Council and other state government agencies for approximately 18 months in relation to closure of the Port Augusta Power Stations site. The closure and rehabilitation requirements of the site are complex; requiring cross-agency collaboration and coordination through a state government taskforce. The EPA is represented on the taskforce and provides advice to ensure that Flinders Power meets its requirements under the *Environment Protection Act 1993* to manage environmental harm and mitigate risks.

Since the announcement that the power stations would cease operation, the EPA has required Flinders Power, via a condition of its EPA licence, to develop a Closure and Post Closure Plan to address environmental issues, including the rehabilitation of the ash dam.

On 1 January 2017, the EPA was notified by Flinders Power, and by members of the community, that dust impacts were occurring within Port Augusta. The EPA immediately responded with a regulatory approach to ensure Flinders Power brought the situation under control to alleviate the impact on the community. The EPA also continued to undertake air quality monitoring in the area and work with Flinders Power to ensure that closure of the facility is in accordance with approved closure plans.

Following community concern about the January dust event, the EPA instigated a community engagement program to increase its presence in the area and directly engage with residents. In May 2017, Flinders Power initiated a Community Reference Group (CRG) to discuss closure and key environmental considerations. The CRG meets monthly and the EPA has attended twice, by invitation.

Heads of Agreement

In June 2017, the EPA and the Local Government Association (LGA) entered into a Heads of Agreement, which consists of a scope, objectives and principles that guide the relationship between the LGA and the EPA. The Agreement also provides a framework for how the EPA, LGA and local councils will work together, and provides clarity for the community about the organisations' environment protection roles and responsibilities. The major themes captured within the Agreement include: training and development; engagement and communication; planning and development; site contamination; and policy development.

Nyrstar transformation

On 16 May 2014, the South Australian Government and Nyrstar announced a \$514 million investment by Nyrstar to transform the Port Pirie smelter. The transformation will substantially reduce emissions and will be supported by a 10-year, \$50 million Targeted Lead Abatement Program.

Reductions in lead emissions from the Nyrstar smelter aim to ultimately reduce blood lead levels in local children. Installation of new equipment and plant is now occurring for the transformation, and the EPA is monitoring progress closely.

Following a management review, Nyrstar made an announcement on 9 February 2017 that it will be postponing the new furnace commissioning by six months to September 2017. Nyrstar identified that rework is required to the fabrication of key module components as well as a number of engineering improvements that will reduce start-up risks and unlock additional value. The total estimated cost to complete the project is expected to be \$660 million.

Following full installation of new equipment and a period of commissioning, the EPA will set emission limits for the fully operational and transformed facility. Monitoring work to determine appropriate limits will be undertaken from the start of commissioning, with the date for setting the new limits in the EPA licence dependent on the completion date of commissioning. These new limits will be lower than the limits set in the current licence.

The EPA will continue to focus on incremental and ongoing environmental improvements leading up to, throughout and beyond the commissioning phase.

Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission

The Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission was established by the South Australian Government on 19 March 2015 to undertake an independent and comprehensive investigation into the potential for increasing South Australia's participation in the nuclear fuel cycle. The Royal Commission collected evidence from four sources: written submissions, oral evidence in public sessions, its own research including overseas site visits and commissioned studies. It was required to, and did, report to the Governor of South Australia by 6 May 2016.

The EPA continued to provide active support to the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission. Staff assisted by providing radiation experts to community consultation sessions. The EPA also held positions on the whole-of-government steering committee and Senior Officers Group as well as presenting on selected topics at the second Citizens Jury.

Various government agencies were involved in analysing the recommendations of the Commission's final report to assist with the community consultation program and jury process. This process was coordinated through the Nuclear Royal Commission Consultation and Response Agency (CARA). During the process, the EPA worked closely with CARA and other agencies.

Community Engagement Champion's Program

The EPA has continued to develop its community engagement capability and practice. A Community Engagement Champion's Program was implemented this year to strengthen staff capacity and capability by training a small pool of 'champions' in engagement techniques and practices.

Since the introduction of the program, the champions have:

- facilitated meetings with industry associations
- provided input and ideas regarding engagement plans
- helped staff with EPA displays and booths at a number of community and industry events, including Science Alive
- assisted at industry and community consultation sessions
- liaised directly with individual residents and provided information face-to-face in communities affected by, and interested in, environmental issues.

Our business 2016-17

Our regulatory approach and key reforms

The EPA recognises that the majority of individuals and companies are willing to comply with environmental legislation, policy and regulation. Its regulatory actions are tailored to suit the full spectrum of circumstances, in particular, to support and recognise those who demonstrate a commitment to good compliance and go beyond compliance to achieve outcomes, such as greater sustainability, resource efficiency and best practice business processes (see Figure 2).

At the other end of the spectrum, the EPA will seek to be robust in tackling failure to comply. For those who deliberately or negligently fail to comply, the EPA considers expiation, orders or prosecution. This approach is embedded in the EPA's systems and processes for undertaking its regulatory role.



Figure 2—EPA regulatory spectrum

The EPA's regulatory approach is based on the foundation of firm and fair compliance and enforcement. It is guided by the following core principles.

Proportional—The EPA will ensure that any measure taken is proportional to the risks posed to the environment and the seriousness of the offence. As far as the law allows, the EPA will take into account the circumstances of each case when considering the action it will take.

Consistent—The EPA will be fair, equitable and apply consistent processes in all cases. It will ensure all officers are trained, and that there are effective systems and operational policies in place to support them.

Transparent—The EPA will openly share information about its decisions and actions. It will help the regulated community understand what is required of them and what they should expect from the EPA. It will also make information available on the Public Register as required by the law.

Targeted—The EPA will ensure its regulatory effort is directed primarily towards those activities that pose the greatest risks, cause the greatest environmental damage or undermine the regulatory regime.

Timely—The EPA will work in a timely manner to manage, inform and progress without delay. It aims to focus its compliance interventions on issues that it has identified as having a greater chance of causing actual or potential harm to the environment and/or the health or wellbeing of the community. As well as undertaking its core regulatory work, the EPA uses a range of targeted interventions that involve a number of options (see Figure 3).



Figure 3—Compliance interventions

State of the Environment Report 2018

The *Environment Protection Act 1993* requires the EPA to prepare and publish, at least every five years, a report on the state of the South Australian environment. The 2018 State of the Environment Report will be the seventh published in South Australia since 1988.

The development of the 2018 State of the Environment Report is guided by a framework that builds on the strengths of previous reports and adopts innovation in the form of digital reporting, data visualisation and stakeholder engagement. The report will analyse key environmental assets and issues, and include case studies, local perspectives and iconic images. It will apply a risk-based approach to identification of key issues, and discuss the public value of environmental assets.

The EPA Board established a committee to oversee the project and the committee held its first meeting in May 2016. The project is supported by an interagency project assurance group and an engagement advisory group, and there has been ongoing engagement with members of environmental NGOs.

The EPA proposes to release the 2018 State of the Environment Report towards the end of 2018.

Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement Regulators Network

The Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators neTwork (AELERT) is a well-respected and internationally recognised professional network for environmental regulators across Australasia. Its members work in local, state and federal government agencies to implement and administer environmental legislation. It also offers members a professional forum in which they can:

- share and solve common issues
- identify best practice and consistent approaches to environmental regulation
- access a range of industry networking opportunities
- collaborate to exchange resources, information, knowledge and experience.

The EPA Chief Executive is the Chair of AELERT and South Australia has hosted the secretariat since October 2014. The EPA is one of five South Australian full members of AELERT from state and local government, with an additional five affiliate members from state, local government and the not-for-profit sector. This year, AELERT was pleased to welcome the South Australian Department of Premier and Cabinet to its membership.

With 1,750 individual members from 210 member agencies, AELERT's membership continues to expand. In 2016, nine new member agencies joined AELERT (eight full members and one affiliate member) including four international agencies: Environmental Investigation Agency UK, Guyana Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Environment (Saskatchewan) and the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology in the Solomon Islands. These figures reflect strong sector recognition of the value of AELERT membership and the EPA of South Australia's role in leading improved and harmonised regulatory practices across South Australia and Australasia.

Regulation of the mining resources sector

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) administers the *Mining Act 1971* and some activities requiring DPC approval, and co-regulates mining activities with the EPA. During 2016–17, DPC assessed a number of mining lease proposals, mine operations plans and programs for environment protection and rehabilitation. DPC consulted the EPA on these submissions. The EPA and DPC have an administrative agreement to ensure that mining regulation is effective and efficient in those areas where both agencies have a regulatory role. This includes expert advice from the EPA in areas of water quality, air quality, mine-closure mechanisms, site contamination and waste management. Of particular note is the work completed on the Central Eyre Iron Project. Iron Road received approvals for a magnetite ore mine south of Wudinna and associated infrastructure, including a port facility at Cape Hardy.

The EPA and DPC worked together during the financial year to address various issues related to managing care and maintenance, and closure planning strategies in the mining sector. The EPA has provided advice and regulatory compliance guidance to industry participants for their effective end-of-life decommissioning and transition. In particular, the EPA worked closely with the DPC on mine-closure planning for the Leigh Creek coal mine and the Angas zinc mine, to ensure environmental obligations are adequately addressed.

The EPA provided input into a draft air-quality benchmark report released by DPC. This report focuses primarily on the regulation of particulate matter from mines and quarries, and has been produced to inform the development of a collaborative air quality guideline.

The EPA licenses the mining resources sector for extraction, mineral processing, waste management, chemical works, storage and allied areas. During 2016–17, the EPA assessed mine and quarry operations that applied for EPA licensing and conducted site inspections of a number of operations. The EPA has taken proactive regulatory actions to address emerging issues. The EPA continues to work closely with local community groups, and has emphasised to industry the importance of effective community engagement.

Regulation of the petroleum resources sector

The EPA managed licences relating to the petroleum resources sector through various regulatory interventions, including responding to spills and other incidents regarding major operators in the Cooper Basin. The EPA continues to work closely with operators to help them understand the scale and extent of impacts on the environment, and has provided regulatory guidance to industry about remediation needs. In addition to the regulation of the petroleum upstream sector, the EPA also regulates the downstream gas processing operation at the Santos Port Bonython plant and the bulk storage diesel facility at Port Bonython.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) administers the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000*, and some activities requiring DPC approval and regulation overlaps with EPA work. The EPA and DPC continued working together on matters during the financial year, including assessing risk to the environment from infrastructure in the Cooper Basin as well as remediation strategies for contaminated legacy sites. As with minerals regulation, the EPA and DPC use an administrative agreement to ensure that co-regulation is effective and efficient.

During 2016–17, the DPC assessed a number of environmental impact reports and statements of environmental objectives required under DPC petroleum leases, including operations related to Santos, EPIC Energy, Senex and petroleum industry operators. The EPA reviewed the statements of environmental objectives and provided subject-matter expertise by way of comments related to water quality, air quality, site contamination and waste management.

Emergency response

The EPA provides a 24-hour on-call Emergency Response Team (ERT) that responds to requests for expert advice and incident attendance in relation to management/mitigation of environmental impacts from emergency pollution and hazardous substances. The EPA is primarily engaged in three types of emergency response:

1. whole-of-government procedure as outlined in the State Emergency Management Plan. This applies to escape or discharges of hazardous substances into the environment and is coordinated by lead emergency services (police and fire authorities)
2. National Response Plans, which deal with oil or chemical spills in the marine environment and are coordinated by the Marine Group of the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
3. other environmental incidents that do not trigger either of the above emergency response systems. This includes incidents reported by EPA licence holders and some incidents reported by members of the public through the pollution reporting system that require an immediate assessment by the EPA.

There was a total of 372 reported incidents to the ERT during 2016–17, of which 39 were asbestos related (see Figure 4). All of these calls were assessed by the on-duty officers and dealt with by the provision of advice or site attendance. The ERT also provided advice within the State Response Framework for the major floods in the Northern Adelaide Plains and Pinery Bushfire.

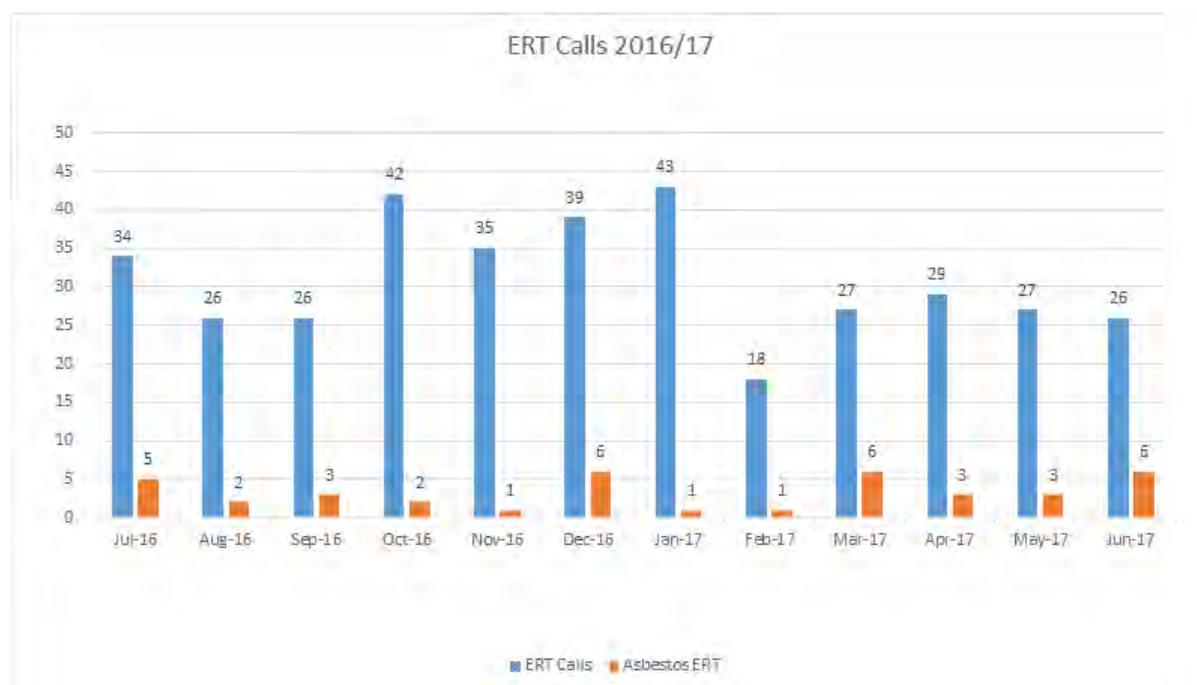


Figure 4—ERT calls and Asbestos ERT for 2016-17

Investigations and tactical support

The EPA has a dedicated Investigations and Tactical Support Branch (ITSB) that undertakes operations, audits and investigations in accordance with established compliance and enforcement criteria. The EPA carried out a number of proactive operations and audits throughout 2016–17. These focused largely on illegal waste management and involved working in partnership with local councils and state government agencies, as summarised below:

- Operation Respect**—In 2017, the EPA continued to work with 12 councils, state government agencies and private industry in deploying covert cameras at identified illegal dumping sites. The operation was designed to demonstrate the methods and benefits of using technology to detect and deter offenders. The program included information about evidence gathering and best-practice deployment¹. Three councils have since purchased cameras for the management of illegal dumping hotspots.
- Operation Incentive 1 and 2**—Officers from ITSB worked in conjunction with staff from the Container Deposit Legislation team to target serial offenders in the retail sector who continued to sell and supply beverages that were not approved and did not display the refund marking. Using intelligence-led analysis, 10 metropolitan supermarkets were inspected, eight of which were successfully prosecuted. For the remaining two inspections, one expiation was issued and a formal written warning issued for a minor breach.
- Operation Cover-up**—In October and November 2016, officers from ITSB worked together on surveillance of waste transport trucks attending or leaving licensed waste depots in Wingfield

¹ Operation Respect continues with additional councils seeking assistance since the announcement of the Local Nuisance & Litter Control Bill. City of Marion, City of Mitcham and Alexandrina Councils have recently become engaged, and camera deployments are in progress. Port Adelaide Enfield, Tea Tree Gully, Mallala, Onkaparinga, Adelaide Hills and City of Charles Sturt have transitioned to managing illegal dumping issues as guided by the EPA.

and Lonsdale. Ten trucks were observed to be transporting waste without appropriate covering or containment measures, and 10 operators were issued with expiations.

Illegal dumping

During 2016-17, the EPA Illegal Dumping Unit received 346 reports related to waste disposal and has 13 matters currently under investigation. Three Environment Protection Orders (EPO) and three Clean-up Orders (CUO) were issued, redirecting in excess of 1,720 tonnes of illegally deposited waste into the legitimate waste management industry. Two EPOs issued were for unauthorised waste depots and one for illegal dumping. Two CUOs issued were for the removal of dumped material that either caused or had the potential to cause environmental harm and the third was a clean up of asbestos-contaminated mulch deposited by a local council.

The EPA has worked with six local councils around managing asbestos and illegally dumped material, and targeted illegal dumping hotspots in regional and metropolitan areas using technology to identify offenders. The Investigations and Tactical Support Branch has issued 11 expiations for illegal dumping offences in the past year. There were 973 reports from the community regarding asbestos, with concerns ranging from dumping to safe management. The EPA has dedicated officers that provide advice in relation to the safe transport and disposal of asbestos and work closely with SafeWork SA who are responsible for asbestos removal at worksites.

Civil enforcements and prosecutions

Prosecutions pursued by the EPA are conducted by the Crown Solicitor's Office and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. The EPA conducted 96 investigations over 2016-17, including 59 new incidents and 37 matters carried over from previous years. There are currently 29 matters with the Crown Solicitor's Office awaiting finalisation. Fifty-three expiation notices were issued for a variety of simple breaches.

Finalised prosecutions for 2016-17 are listed in Table 5.

Table 5—Finalised prosecutions 2016-17

Name	Charges	Penalty
Jake Martin-Herde	Jake Martin-Herde was identified as operating a commercial cosmetic tanning business in breach of regulation 5 of the Radiation Protection and Control (Non-ionising Radiation) Regulations 2013	Convicted on two breaches of the Radiation Protection and Control Regulations. Fined \$2,100 plus \$160 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$900 in prosecution costs to the EPA.
Ali Mashouf	Ali Mashouf was identified as providing 105 non-compliant beverage containers for sale in breach of section 69 of the EP Act.	Convicted on two counts of unauthorised sale of beverages. Fined \$1,020 plus \$160 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$800 in prosecution costs to the EPA.
Benjamin Liemareff	Benjamin Liemareff disposed of waste soil into the Black Hill Conservation Park. Source of waste soil excavated for the installation of a swimming pool. Charged with intentionally or recklessly breaching a mandatory provision of an Environment	Convicted for illegal disposal of waste. Fined \$18,000 plus \$160 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$1,300 in prosecution costs to the EPA.

Name	Charges	Penalty
	Protection Policy, section 34(1) of the EP Act.	
Thuan Phat Pty Ltd	The supermarket Tuan Phat was identified as providing 385 non-compliant beverage containers for sale in breach of section 69 of the EP Act.	Convicted on three counts of unauthorised sale of beverages. Fined \$1,200 plus \$160 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$800 in prosecution costs to the EPA.
Virginia Nursery Pty Ltd	Virginia Nursery identified to be burning waste in the open air without a permit. Charged with intentionally or recklessly breaching a mandatory provision of the <i>Environment Protection (Burning) Policy 1994</i> , section 34(1) of the EP Act.	Convicted and fined \$1,500 plus \$160 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$800 in prosecution costs to the EPA.
Hussain Qasemi and Jan Jaafary	Hussain Qasemi and Jan Jaafary were identified as providing 1,748 non-compliant beverage containers for sale in breach of section 69 of the EP Act.	Convicted and fined \$8,400 plus \$320 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$800 in prosecution costs to the EPA.
Mohammad Sharafat	Mohammad Sharafat was identified as providing 494 non-compliant beverage containers for sale in breach of section 69 of the EP Act.	Convicted on six counts of unauthorised sale of beverages. Fined \$900 plus \$960 Victims of Crime Levy. Ordered to pay \$800 in prosecution costs to the EPA.

As an alternative enforcement approach to criminal prosecution for less serious offences under the EP Act, the EPA may negotiate a civil penalty with an individual or corporation the EPA believes has committed the offence, or may apply to the Environment, Resources and Development Court for an order that the person/s pay an amount as a civil penalty to the EPA. Civil penalties that are negotiated by the EPA are developed in compliance with its policy for calculation of civil penalties under the EP Act, as shown in Table 6.

Table 6—Finalised civil penalties for 2016–17

Name	Charges	Penalty
Marshall Power Australia Pty Ltd	Battery manufacturer located in Edinburgh North confirmed to have discharged contaminated water to stormwater.	This alleged contravention was dealt with by way of negotiated civil penalty (section 104A of the EP Act) for an amount of \$1,000.

Environment Protection Orders and Clean-up Orders

Environment Protection Orders can be issued by authorised officers under section 93(1) of the EP Act, as follows:

- for the purpose of securing compliance with either of the following
 - general environmental duty
 - mandatory provisions of an Environment Protection Policy
 - a condition of an environmental authorisation
 - a condition of a beverage container approval

- any other requirement imposed by or under the EP Act
- for the purpose of giving effect to an Environment Protection Policy.

Table 7 shows EPOs issued for 2016-17 and compares this with previous years.

Table 7—Environment Protection Orders issued

2012–13	2013– 14	2014– 15	2015– 16	2016-17
19	16	22	26	3

Clean-up Orders can be issued by authorised officers under section 99 of the EP Act. Where the authority is satisfied that a person has caused environmental harm by a contravention of the EP Act, a CUO is issued for the purpose of requiring a person to take specified action to make good any resulting environmental damage.

Table 8 shows CUOs issued for 2016-17 and compares this with previous years.

Table 8—Clean-up Orders issued

2012–13	2013– 14	2014– 15	2015– 16	2016-17
0	0	0	2	3

Incidents, reporting and enquiries

The EPA continues to maintain a pollution reporting and enquiries line (telephone 8204 2004, free call non-metro 1800 623 445) to receive calls about environmental concerns.

Depending on the nature of the complaint, the EPA's response may be to either:

- provide information to the caller
- instigate investigation by an authorised officer
- refer information provided by the caller to another state or local government agency for action.

In 2016–17, 92% of calls received regarding non-licensed sites were responded to within three working days. A total of 93% of those complaints were resolved by a staged process, and the remaining 7% were subsequently allocated for investigation by an authorised officer.

Table 9 summarises the number and type of reports received during 2016-17 and makes a comparison with those received during 2014–15 and 2015-16. The total number of enquires received by the EPA in 2016-17 was 7,751.

Table 9—Total calls and call type

Call type	2014–15	2015–16	2016-17
Enquiry resolved by FAQ	5,484	3,955	4,057
Enquiry forwarded to EPA	6,059	8,262	7,751
Total enquiries	11,543	12,217	11,808
Incidents forwarded to EPA	3,101	3,521	3,476

Total incidents and enquiries	14,644	15,738	15,284
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Reports about incidents have been further broken down into categories in Table 10 and the most common enquiry type is shown in Table 11.

Table 10—Total number of incidents (by category) received by the EPA

Report type	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016-17
Air quality	989	936	954	1,055
Air and noise	113	89	120	104
Noise	1,288	1,253	1,521	1,430
Marine pollution	13	22	27	27
Site contamination	45	52	45	23
Water	155	190	205	205
Waste	202	427	331	251
Other	259	132	318	381
Total	3,064	3,101	3,521	3,476

Table 11—Number of calls for common enquiry categories received by the EPA

Type of enquiry	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016-17
Air quality	324	324	294	312
Noise	531	405	793	709
Water quality	196	274	321	284
Waste	531	487	673	583
Site contamination	246	414	465	316
Licensing	1,004	819	1,578	1,367
Total	2,832	2,723	4,124	3,571

Table 12 details the number of FAQs by category, but does not include uncategorised calls resolved by the call centre (4,057).

Table 12—Frequently asked questions report for the call centre

Category	2014–15	2015–16	2016-17
Noise	623	620	507
Waste/recycling	302	187	133
Asbestos	406	332	34
Air	234	222	219
Other	172	199	195

ZeroWaste	424	498	464
Water/stormwater	32	29	51
Container deposit legislation	9	22	34
Licensing	72	95	88
Publications	0	0	0
Site contamination	123	111	93
Radiation	169	84	65
Acid sulfate dust	0	0	0
Plastic bags	0	0	0
Healthy waters	39	45	25
Construction	394	225	369

Container deposit legislation

South Australia along with the Northern Territory continued, during 2016-17, to have the nation's lowest rate of beverage containers found in Australia's litter streams, combined with the highest recycling rate of 79.7% (see Table 13).

Table 13—Container deposit return rates for 2016–17 and prior to the 10-cent refund increase

Container type	Return rates 2016-17 (%)	Prior to refund increase (%)
Combined return rate	79.7	69.9
Glass	84.9	79.1
Aluminium	88.8	77.3
Polyethylene terephthalate	65.8	65.9
High-density polyethylene	53.5	49.2
Liquid paperboard cartons	67.4	35.4

Plastic bags

Retail compliance, and community awareness and acceptance of the plastic-bag ban remains high, with very few incidents of non-compliance. Table 14 shows plastic bag compliance issues for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.

Table 14—Plastic shopping bag compliance

Plastic bag compliance issues	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Inspections (total)	116	90	51
Number of failed inspections	9	10	7
Written 'cautions/warnings' issued	9	9	7
Expiation notices issued	0	0	0

Planning and development assessments

The South Australian planning system relies on advice and support from multiple government agencies in order to create an integrated system where key issues are considered. The *Development Act 1993* provides for the referral of proposed changes to the Planning Strategy, development plan amendments, certain development applications and aspects of the assessment of major developments to the EPA for advice or direction.

The EPA's overarching goal for its interaction with the planning system is to promote the principles of ecologically sustainable development (as defined in the *Environment Protection Act 1993*). The EPA will do this by ensuring that its views on the matters within the scope of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* are heard, understood and taken into account at each stage of the planning system to the degree appropriate to the risk of environmental harm.

The South Australian planning system was in a state of early transition from the *Development Act 1993* to the *Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* during 2016-17. However, all of the EPA's statutory roles within the planning system fell within the scope of the *Development Act 1993* during 2016-17.

Planning strategy and policies

During 2016-17, the EPA assessed 12 statements of intent, two ministerial development plan amendments and 12 council development plan amendments. Numbers have reduced in comparison with the previous year due to transition to the new Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act. In addition, the EPA has provided formal input into the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide.

The EPA provided advice on the following significant development plan amendments:

- Ministerial—Kilburn Blair Athol Urban Renewal Zone
- Ministerial—Port Adelaide: Port Centre Renewal Part 2
- District Council of Mount Barker—Mount Barker Rural (Primary Production Protection).

Assessment of major developments and projects

The EPA provided advice on 17 major development application matters during 2016–17, the most significant of which included:

- Iron Road’s Central Eyre Iron Project (Eyre Peninsula)—The EPA responded to the Iron Road Response Document in July 2016 and provided input into the State Government’s Assessment Report prior to this project being approved in April 2017.
- Nyrstar smelter upgrade (Port Pirie)—The EPA provided feedback to Nyrstar on the Construction Environment Management Plan Version 2 and Operational Environmental Management Plan Version 2.
- American River tourist resort (Kangaroo Island)—The EPA provided comment on the American River Tourist Resort Development Report on 4 November 2016.
- Narnu Waters (Hindmarsh Island)—The EPA provided comment to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) on the final version of the Narnu Waters Residential Waterfront Estate Guidelines in November 2016.
- Kangaroo Island Golf Course resort—A response was provided to the DPTI in March 2017 in relation to a proposed variation to the layout of the approved Kangaroo Island golf course major development application.
- Smith Bay multi-user port facility (Kangaroo Island)—The EPA provided formal advice in May 2017 to the Development Assessment Commission in relation to the guidelines for an environmental impact statement for this major development application.

Development assessment

The EPA provided advice or direction on 242 development applications in response to referrals made under the *Development Act 1993* during 2016–17. The EPA advised or directed the refusal of nine of these development applications.

Some of the more significant development applications assessed by the EPA included the following:

- The EPA finalised a response to an oyster hatchery development approval at Cowell well-ahead of statutory timeframes in order to address the urgent need for oyster farmers in South Australia to have a local source of oyster spat in 2017 in light of the Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome (POMS) outbreak in Tasmania.
- A refusal recommendation was sent to the Development Assessment Commission in November 2016 in relation to an artificial reef proposal that involved putting old train carriages, shipping containers and pipes on the seafloor 3 km off the coast near Point Riley on Spencer Gulf.
- A response was provided to the City of Port Adelaide Enfield in November 2016 in relation to an application for increasing poultry processing from 850,000 to 1.2 million birds per week at Wingfield.
- The EPA finalised a response to Alexandrina Council about proposed alterations and additions to a disused abattoir at Normanville. As meat products were proposed to be picked up at night-time, detailed investigations about the impact of noise on nearby dwellings were undertaken.
- A response was provided to the City of Onkaparinga in February 2017 regarding a tyre pyrolysis plant at Lonsdale.

Site contamination planning framework

- The planning system has an important role in ensuring risks posed by site contamination are minimised when land use changes or is otherwise developed. To improve consistency and risk-based decision making, a review of the processes for managing site contamination through the planning and development systems was undertaken.
- Since 2012, the EPA and the DPTI have partnered together to lead a program of reform that has collaborated closely with industry professionals, representative organisations and local government. The work has been undertaken as part of the government's commitment to urban renewal, reducing red tape and streamlining regulatory processes.
- Throughout 2016-17, the EPA and the DPTI worked to transition the project into the implementation phase through the drafting and amendment of the Development Regulations 2008, the finalisation of new guidance resources and support for a capacity-building program.

Publishing position statements on the EPA website

- In 2016–17, the EPA finalised an overarching position statement on waste for each stage of the South Australian planning system. This, together with the publication of similar statements on air quality, noise, radiation and water quality during 2015-16, completed a suite of EPA overarching position statements on environmental issues to be considered through the planning system.
- In 2016-17, the EPA also completed a position statement on waste depots in relation to the South Australian planning system and a guideline on construction environmental management plans to assist planning authorities and development proponents with protecting the environment and public health during the construction phase of development projects.

Implementation of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act

The EPA worked with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure to develop a program for implementation of the new *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (PDI Act) that was assented to by the Governor on 21 April 2016. The new legislation provides for a staged introduction of new planning tools and governance frameworks. Key areas where the EPA was involved during the 2016-17 period are as follows.

State Planning Policies—The State Planning Policies (SPPs) are one of the new planning instruments contained in the PDI Act that set out the government's overarching goals or requirements for the new planning system. An EPA officer was seconded to work within the DPTI during November and December 2016 on the initial formulation of SPPs. The EPA continued to work with the DPTI on the development of the SPPs through the remainder of the year.

Planning and Design Code—The State Planning Commission will be responsible for preparing and maintaining the Planning and Design Code (P&D Code). The P&D Code will set out a comprehensive set of performance-based planning rules for development assessment purposes, classified into zones, subzones and overlays.

During 2016-17, the EPA, along with other government departments and local councils, worked with the DPTI to develop a new policy overlay that would apply to the Mount Lofty Ranges Watershed once the P&D Code is operational.

Le Fevre Noise Monitoring Expansion Network

The EPA initiated a joint large-scale monitoring project with City of Port Adelaide Enfield in 2016. The Le Fevre Noise Monitoring Expansion Network project involved the initial deployment of four noise monitoring stations in Lefevre Peninsula, with a focus on major transport and industrial noise sources. The monitoring program was then expanded, consistent with the council's Environmental Strategy, to address potential issues linked to residential developments in former industrial areas and community concerns.

Completed in February 2017, the EPA's noise monitoring network now comprises nine noise monitoring stations equipped with weather sensors. Measurements of the monitoring network and audio records are accessible in a real-time mode via the general public access website: <https://sentinel.bksv.com/epa/pae>.

Aquaculture

Aquaculture in South Australia is regulated under the *Aquaculture Act 2001*, which is administered by the department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA). The EPA is a mandatory referral agency under this Act for all aquaculture licence applications and amendments, and for lease conversions that occur outside an aquaculture zone.

The EPA also provides advice about PIRSA policies, legislation and environmental monitoring programs and responds to various environmental issues that may be associated with aquaculture. When undertaking this role, the EPA has regard to, and seeks to further, the objects of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* and has regard to the general environmental duty and relevant Environment Protection Policies.

Aquaculture licence and lease applications

In accordance with provisions of section 59 of the *Aquaculture Act 2001*, all licence applications and amendments must be referred to and approved by the EPA before the licence can be granted. During the 2016–17 period, 31 licence applications were referred to the EPA, all of which were assessed within the statutory timeframe of six weeks.

Of significance, the EPA was involved in the assessment and approval of a large-scale oyster hatchery located near Cowell and amendments to existing land-based aquaculture licences for the addition of oysters. These applications were in response to the POMs outbreak that occurred in Tasmania in February 2016 from where the majority of South Australian oyster spat is sourced.

To protect the South Australian industry from the disease, a translocation ban was enforced by PIRSA, resulting in a spat shortage for South Australian farmers. In response, the South Australian Government worked quickly to facilitate the approvals that would enable the sustainable production of oyster spat in South Australia.

Aquaculture legislation, policy and guidelines

The *Aquaculture Act 2001* supports the establishment of aquaculture regulations and policies that aim to provide further direction on the regulation and management of aquaculture. During 2016-17, the EPA provided comment on the following aquaculture regulations and policy as drafted by PIRSA.

- Draft Aquaculture (Zones – Eastern Spencer Gulf) Amendment Policy 2016. Key changes to this policy included the addition of finfish farming in the Wallaroo aquaculture zone. The EPA is facilitating a research project to help support the development of an environmental monitoring program should finfish be approved for this zone
- PIRSA Aquaculture Regional Reports. The EPA provided feedback on the drafting of PIRSA regional performance reports that aim to support public access to the economic and environmental performance of the aquaculture industry in South Australia.

Aquaculture environmental surveys

The EPA conducts regular environmental surveys of aquaculture industry operations, with the aim of increasing industry awareness of the environmental obligations and associated policies these operations have under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. In addition, the surveys provide information about potential environmental issues, which can then assist the EPA with its assessment of licence applications and the provision of advice about PIRSA aquaculture policies. During 2016–17, the EPA completed 24 environmental surveys of aquaculture facilities located across South Australia.

Adelaide coastal waters

The Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP) was released in July 2013, with progress on the plan's implementation well-underway. The Catchment to Coast project is being led by the EPA as part of the implementation of the ACWQIP. Substantial funding support for the project has been received from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme, which will continue until June 2018.

The project includes implementing the following six sub-projects:

- Taking Action at a Local Level
- Support for Community Awareness
- Developing Water Sensitive Urban Design Demonstration Sites
- Working with Aboriginal People to Promote Cultural Connections
- Rain Garden 500
- Monitoring across Catchments and Sub-catchments in Adelaide.

Local government partnerships are a key part of the Catchment to Coast project, including the work recently completed during the financial year with the City of Charles Sturt, City of Mitcham, City of Holdfast Bay and City of Unley. The Rain Garden 500 three-year grant program continued to provide further opportunities for local councils, community groups, schools, sports clubs and others to apply to build a rain garden in the Adelaide region. Rain gardens improve the quality of stormwater coming from our streets that returns to local creeks and the sea.

Our people

Leadership development

Following the success of the 2015 Aspiring Leadership program, 10 staff members were selected to participate in the 2017 program. Staff completed a number of components, including two pre-course assessments, four days of facilitated training, individual assignments along with a group action-learning project and follow-up one-on-one coaching with the creation of individual development plans.

A highlight of 2016 was the nomination of the 2015 Aspiring Leaders Program, with training provider BDO Australia for the Australian Psychological Society Workplace Excellence Awards in the Learning and Development category. The award recognises outstanding approaches to learning and development. The EPA with BDO was named a finalist, which provided recognition of the EPA's commitment to develop and encourage the next generation of leaders within the organisation.

Staff achievement awards

Staff recognition is an important element for promoting a high-performance culture in the EPA. The EPA's staff recognition program provides an opportunity to celebrate achievements and recognise the contribution of individual staff members and teams. On 14 November 2016, the EPA held its second staff achievement awards, which also included the annual Work, Health and Safety Award.

The award categories were for staff who excelled in the following areas: Safety, Supporting Wellbeing and Prosperity, Keeping People Informed and Engaged, Being an Effective and Trusted Regulator, and Public Service Values and Our Ways of Working. Service excellence was also a key focus throughout the assessment criteria.

In total, 42 outstanding nominations were received representing teams and individuals across the organisation. The awards were presented by the EPA Presiding Member, Chief Executive and EPA Executive.

Being the Best We Can Workforce Capability Development Plan

The inaugural Being the Best We Can Workforce Capability Development Plan for 2016-17 and the Partnerships and Engagement Framework for 2016-18 were implemented to support skill development across a range of areas aligned with the EPA *Strategic Directions 2015-18*. Some of the key areas included: Leadership Development, Succession Planning, the Staff Achievement Awards for 2016 and the Community Engagement Champions Program.

Tables 15 to 22 provide information about EPA workforce statistics.

Table 15—Number of employees by age bracket and gender

Age bracket	Male	Female	Other	Total
15–19	0	0	0	0
20–24	3	1	0	4
25–29	1	8	0	9
30–34	13	16	0	29
35–39	14	30	0	44
40–44	20	15	0	35
45–49	22	18	0	40
50–54	18	10	0	28
55–59	19	10	0	29
60–64	3	4	0	7
65+	0	2	0	2

Table 16—Total number of employees with disabilities (regarding Commonwealth DDA definition)

Male	Female	Other	Total	% of agency
4	3	0	7	3.1

Table 17—Types of disability (where specified)

Disability	Male	Female	Other	Total	% of agency
Disability requiring workplace adaption	4	3	0	7	3.1
Physical	4	3	0	7	3.1
Intellectual	0	0	0	0	0.0
Sensory	1	1	0	2	0.9
Psychological/psychiatric	0	0	0	0	0.0

Table 18—Executive by gender and classification

Classification	Ongoing			Term Tenured			Term Untenured			Other (Casual)		
	M	F	X	M	F	X	M	F	X	M	F	X
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
SAES1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0

Table 19—Leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee

Leave type	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016-17
Sick leave	8.23	7.45	8.29	7.10	8.89	9.1
Family carer's leave	1.41	1.36	1.34	1.43	1.18	1.3
Special leave with pay	0.62	0.99	1.03	0.95	1.85	3.5

Table 20—Documented review of individual performance management

Review	% total workforce
A review within the past 12 months	72.0
A review older than 12 months	13.9
No review	3.1

Table 21—Leadership and management training expenditure

Training and development	Total cost (\$)	% of total salary expenditure
Total training and development expenditure	461,423.93	2.0%
Total leadership and management development expenditure	294,292.83	1.29%

Table 22—Number of persons recruited/separated from the agency

Number of persons recruited to the agency	Number of persons separated from the agency
20	18

Work health and safety

The EPA developed another ambitious Work Health Safety and Injury Management (WHS&IM) annual plan for 2016-17 to support the four pillars of the transformation safety culture strategy. The WHS&IM annual plan also aligned with four key focus areas of the: *Building Safety Excellence in the Public Sector*. The WHS&IM annual plan consisted of 76 'work as normal' actions and 57 'project' actions. Key achievements from the annual plan were:

- participation in the Public Sector Audit and Verification System and achievement of a superior rating to that achieved in the last external audit
- undertaking a major review of team-specific risks faced by EPA staff to ensure effectiveness of implemented controls
- refreshment of the EPA intranet to ensure safety, injury management and mental health information is easier to find.

In 2016-17, the EPA was audited by Deloitte, an external third party auditor, as part of the Office for the Public Sector's Audit and Verification System program. The AVS formally recognised the EPA's significant improvement in safety leadership, implementation of its safety system and the resultant culture improvement.

Injury management statistics for the period 2016-17 are presented in Tables 23 to 25 as follows.

Table 23—Work health and safety prosecutions, notices and corrective action taken

Work health and safety prosecutions, notices and corrective action	2016–17
Number of notifiable incidents pursuant to WHS Act Part 3	0
Number of notices served pursuant to WHS Act section 90, section 191 and section 195 (provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices)	0
Number of prosecutions pursuant to WHS Act Part 2 Division 5	0
Number of enforceable undertakings pursuant to WHS Act Part 11	0

Table 24—Safety performance for 12 months to end of June 2017*

Safety issue	Baseline June 2012 (numbers or %)	Actual	Notional quarterly target	Variation	Final target 2022 (numbers or %)
1 Workplace fatalities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2 New workplace injury claims	2.67	5.00	2.27	2.73	2.03
3 Significant injury frequency rate (1,000 FTE)	4.75	9.22*	4.07	5.15	3.61
4 Significant injury frequency rate (1,000 FTE), Musculoskeletal injuries	0.00	0.00*	0.00	0.00	0.00
5 Significant injury frequency rate (1,000 FTE), psychological injury	4.75	9.22*	4.07	5.15	3.61

* Data as at 30 March 2017

Table 25—Agency gross workers compensation expenditure for 2016–17 compared with 2015–16

Expenditure	2015–16 (\$m)	2016-17 (\$m)	Variation (\$m) + (-)
Income maintenance	0.0195	0.0840	0.0645
Medical/hospital costs combined	0.0096	0.0136	0.0040
Rehabilitation/return to work	0.0	0.0056	0.0056
Investigations	0.0060	0.0125	0.0065
Medical reports	0.0040	0.0072	0.0032
Lump sum	0.1000	0.0	(0.1000)
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total claims expenditure	0.1590	0.1230	(0.036)

Other reporting items

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) strategy demonstrates the commitment of the South Australian Government to improving the participation of people with a disability across a range of areas in our society so they can enjoy the rights and opportunities provided to all citizens to reach their full potential.

The EPA's DAIP Working Group was convened this year. The key objectives for the EPA's DAIP are to ensure that all EPA employees and their families and carers have access to a range of support systems and that people with a disability can achieve their full potential.

Whistleblowers Protection Act

The *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* (WP Act) encourages disclosure of maladministration and waste in the public sector and corrupt or illegal conduct generally, by providing the means by which disclosures can be made and subsequent protection (from victimisation and civil or criminal liability) can be provided to those who make a disclosure.

The EPA has three responsible officers for the purposes of the WP Act pursuant to section 7 of the *Public Sector Act 2009*. The WP Act requires the EPA to report on the number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency. There were no disclosures to an EPA responsible officer during 2016–17.

Reconciliation statements

The EPA acknowledges the traditional custodians on whose ancestral lands it carries out its business, and that it respects their spiritual relationship with their country. The EPA also acknowledges the deep feelings of attachment and the relationship that Aboriginal peoples have to country. In fulfilling its functions, the EPA is cognisant of the cultural and natural heritage of Australia's traditional owners.

Public complaints

From July 2016 to June 2017, the EPA received a total of four formal complaints about its services, as shown in Table 26. The complaints were processed according to the EPA Complaints Management Policy, available on the EPA website.

Table 26—Complaints about EPA services during 2016-17

Complaints about services provided by the EPA by subject during 2016-17	Number
EPA's handling of complaint regarding neighbour's septic tank	1
EPA's handling of 1) assessment of application for accreditation as a third party service provider under s338 of the <i>Radiation Protection and Control Act</i> ; 2) secondary complaint about time taken to address original complaint	1
EPA's handling of noise complaint	2
Total complaints	4

Sustainability reporting

As the state's primary environmental regulator, the EPA is keen to encourage sustainable environmental practices amongst industry and the community. In keeping with this commitment, the EPA is highly aware of its own activities and impact, and the need to ensure it embraces sustainable practices wherever possible. Significantly, the centralisation of staff at 250 Victoria Square, a six-star building with a five-star fit-out, means a marked reduction in energy consumed for office accommodation. Other activities the EPA undertakes to promote sustainable practices are as follows:

- All waste management and recycling is managed in partnership with the lessor's building management. Containers for all waste are provided within utilities rooms. Streams of waste collected include
 - co-mingled recyclable waste
 - organic food waste
 - white paper and confidential paper destruction
 - general dry waste.
- Toner cartridges from photocopying machines and printers, batteries and light bulbs are also collected and recycled.
- Vehicle utilisation and vehicle mix is regularly reviewed and, at lease renewal, consideration is given to environmental aspects of the replacement vehicles available.
- All printers/photocopiers are pre-set to print to double-sided documents.
- The use of electronic tablets to view papers is promoted to the EPA Board and Executive, substantially cutting down the volume of documents having to be printed for each meeting.
- Wherever possible, the EPA uses service providers and suppliers who follow sustainable principles and use recyclable materials.

The EPA also provides incentives to support staff in utilising sustainable commuting practices, for example, provision of bicycle parking.

Overseas travel

In line with reporting requirements, details of overseas travel can be found via the EPA website, at: <www.epa.sa.gov.au>.

Financial reporting

Fraud

During 2016–17, the EPA identified three instances of fraud, as shown in Table 27.

Table 27—Identification of instances of fraud

Nature of fraud	Number of instances	Strategies for control and prevention
An allegation that an EPA employee was also undertaking work elsewhere without the requisite agency permission	1	Investigation into this matter is being finalised, however, not of material nature
Inaccurate completion of time sheet information by EPA employees.	2	Investigation into these matters are being finalised, however, not of material nature

Consultants

Tables 28 and 29 show the EPA’s use of consultants for the financial year.

Table 28—Use of consultants with a value below \$10, 000

Consultant	Number	Total \$
No consultants below a value of \$10,000	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Table 29—Use of consultants with a value of \$10, 000 and above

Consultant	Purpose of consultancy	Number	Total \$
No consultants with value of \$10,000 or above	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil

Appendix 1—Financial statements

Environment Protection Authority

Annual Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Environment Protection Authority

Certification of the financial statements

We certify that the:

- financial statements of the Environment Protection Authority:
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Authority; and
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's instructions; and
 - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority at the end of the financial year and the result of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.

- internal controls employed by the Authority over its financial reporting and its preparation of the financial statements have been effective throughout the financial year



Tony Circelli
Chief Executive

12 September 2017

Linda Bowes
Presiding Member

12 September 2017

Richard Jácka
Chief Financial Officer

12 September 2017

Environment Protection Authority
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	6	22,967	23,938
Supplies and services	7	8,304	8,479
Depreciation and amortisation	8	1,052	1,084
Grants and subsidies	9	595	503
Other expenses	10	149	139
Total expenses		33,067	34,143
Income			
Revenues from fees and charges	11	43,638	38,024
Grants and contributions	12	1,195	1,511
Interest revenues	13	97	126
Net gain/(loss) from the disposal of non-current assets	14	-	(6)
Other income	15	14	30
Total income		44,944	39,685
Net cost/(benefit) of providing service		(11,877)	(5,542)
Revenues from/Payments to SA Government			
Payments to SA Government	16	5,802	6,275
Total payments to SA Government		5,802	6,275
Net result		6,075	(733)
Total comprehensive result		6,075	(733)

The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Environment Protection Authority
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	17	21,606	15,576
Receivables	18	5,804	4,800
Total current assets		27,410	20,376
Non-current assets			
Receivables	18	3	2
Property, plant and equipment	19	3,772	4,304
Intangible assets	20	2,374	2,430
Total non-current assets		6,149	6,736
Total assets		33,559	27,112
Current liabilities			
Payables	22	1,425	1,096
Employee benefits	23	2,397	2,331
Provisions	24	84	56
Other liabilities	25	88	78
Total current liabilities		3,994	3,561
Non-current liabilities			
Payables	22	522	567
Employee benefits	23	5,616	5,619
Provisions	24	158	105
Other liabilities	25	378	444
Total non-current liabilities		6,674	6,735
Total liabilities		10,668	10,296
Net assets		22,891	16,816
Equity			
Asset revaluation surplus		932	932
Retained earnings		21,959	15,884
Total equity		22,891	16,816
The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner			
Unrecognised contractual commitments	26		
Contingent assets and liabilities	27		

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Environment Protection Authority
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	Asset Revaluation Surplus \$'000	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
Balance at 30 June 2015		932	19,888	20,820
Error Correction - Receivables	28	-	(3,271)	(3,271)
Restated Balance at 30 June 2015		932	16,617	17,549
Net result for 2015-16		-	(733)	(733)
Total comprehensive result for 2015-16		-	(733)	(733)
Balance at 30 June 2016		932	15,884	16,816
Net result for 2016-17		-	6,075	6,075
Total comprehensive result for 2016-17		-	6,075	6,075
Balance at 30 June 2017		932	21,959	22,891

All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Environment Protection Authority

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		<small>\$'000</small>	<small>\$'000</small>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash outflows:			
Employee benefit payments		(22,848)	(22,789)
Payments for supplies and services		(8,082)	(9,191)
Payment of grants and subsidies		(595)	(503)
Other payments		(141)	(114)
Cash used in operations		<u>(31,666)</u>	<u>(32,597)</u>
Cash inflows:			
Fees and charges		42,653	37,573
Receipts from grants and contributions		1,195	1,511
Interest received		100	127
Other receipts		14	30
Cash generated from operations		<u>43,962</u>	<u>39,241</u>
Cash flows from SA Government			
Payments to SA Government		(5,802)	(6,275)
Cash paid to SA Government		<u>(5,802)</u>	<u>(6,275)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	31	<u>6,494</u>	<u>369</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash outflows			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(464)	(569)
Cash used in investing activities		<u>(464)</u>	<u>(569)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>(464)</u>	<u>(569)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		6,030	(200)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		15,576	15,776
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	17	<u>21,606</u>	<u>15,576</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

1 Objectives of the Environment Protection Authority (the Authority)

The objectives of the Authority are to achieve a better environment for the wellbeing and prosperity of all South Australians:

- through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the environment, and the risk-based regulation of pollution, waste and noise
- by ensuring the safe use of radiation to minimise adverse impacts on human health and the environment, through the risk-based regulation of radiation.

The Authority works closely with industry, the community and government to protect our unique natural environment and promote the safe use of radiation while supporting economic growth and improving wellbeing.

2 Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* (PFAA).

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with relevant Australian Accounting Standards and comply with Treasurer's Instructions and accounting policy statements promulgated under the provisions of the PFAA.

The Authority has applied Australian Accounting Standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities, as the Authority is a not-for-profit entity.

(b) Basis of preparation

The preparation of the financial statements requires:

- the use of certain accounting estimates and management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Authority's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are outlined in the applicable notes.
- accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events are reported.
- compliance with accounting policy statements issued pursuant to section 41 of the PFAA. In the interest of public accountability and transparency the accounting policy statements require the following note disclosures, that have been included in these financial statements:
 - (a) revenues, expenses, financial assets and liabilities where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within SA Government as at reporting date, classified according to their nature. A threshold of \$100,000 for separate identification of these items applies
 - (b) expenses incurred as a result of engaging consultants
 - (c) employee targeted voluntary separation package (TVSP) information
 - (d) employees whose normal remuneration is equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level (within \$10,000 bandwidths) and the aggregate of the remuneration paid or payable or otherwise made available, directly or indirectly by the entity to those employees
 - (e) board/committee member and remuneration information, where a board/committee member is entitled to receive income from membership other than a direct out-of-pocket reimbursement.

The financial statements have been prepared on a 12 month period and presented in Australian currency.

(c) Reporting Entity

The Authority comprises the following:

- the Environment Protection Authority – a statutory authority with an appointed board established by the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.
- an administrative unit also named the Environment Protection Authority established under the *Public Sector Act 2009*.
- the Environment Protection Fund (the Fund) established under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

Under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*, the Chief Executive of the administrative unit is also taken to be the Chief Executive of the statutory authority. The Chief Executive is subject to the control and direction of the Minister in relation to the activities of the administrative unit, and is subject to the control and direction of the Board in relation to giving effect to its policies and decisions under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

The statutory authority is South Australia's primary environmental regulator for the protection, restoration and enhancement of our environment. The statutory authority makes use of the services of the administrative unit's employees and facilities in performing its statutory obligations.

The administrative unit also has responsibility for radiation protection functions under the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982*. The Authority's financial statements include assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses attributable to Radiation Protection. The income and expenses (excluding overheads) attributable to radiation protection are disclosed in Note 37. However assets and liabilities have not been separately disclosed as they cannot be reliably attributed to radiation protection functions.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by combining the financial statements of all entities that comprise the consolidated entity being the Authority and the Fund, in accordance with AASB 10 *Consolidated Financial Statements*.

In forming the view that the Fund is controlled, the Authority considered its involvement with the entity and determined that its substantive rights give the Authority the current ability to direct the major relevant activities of the entity and the Authority is exposed or has rights to variable returns from its involvement as the entity contributes to furtherance of the Authority's objectives.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Consistent accounting policies have been applied and all inter-entity balances and transactions arising within the consolidated entity have been eliminated in full.

The financial statements and accompanying notes include all the controlled activities of the Authority.

Administered Items

(1) Solid Waste Levies

As per section 113 of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* the Authority earns and collects 100 percent of waste levies, however is then required to transfer 50 percent of the cash component of solid waste levies collected to Green Industries SA as per section 17 of the *Green Industries SA Act 2004*.

Previously this revenue and expenditure was captured in the Authority's financial statements, but upon further review is now considered an administered item.

(2) Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 - Dob in a Litterer Revenue

The launch of the Dob in a Litterer campaign on 1 February 2017 followed the introduction of the litter provisions in the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, and a state government commitment to introduce a public litter reporting system. From 1 May 2017, fines began being imposed to those caught littering from their vehicles following a 3-month grace period where warning letters were issued in lieu of fines.

Revenue received from Dob in a Litterer must be paid into the Consolidated Account and therefore has been treated as an administered item.

The transactions and balances relating to the above administered items are not recognised as income, expense, assets and liabilities of the Authority. See Note 38 for Administered financial statements.

(d) Comparative information

The presentation and classification of items in the financial statements are consistent with prior periods except where specific accounting standards and/or accounting policy statements have required a change.

Where the Authority has applied an accounting policy retrospectively; retrospectively restated items in the financial statements; reclassified items in the financial statements, it has provided three Statements of Financial Position and related notes.

The restated comparative amounts do not replace the original financial statements for the preceding period.

(e) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

(f) Taxation

The Authority is not subject to income tax. The Authority is liable for payroll tax, fringe benefits tax, goods and services tax (GST), emergency services levy and land tax.

Shared Services SA prepares a Business Activity Statement on behalf of the Authority under the grouping provisions of the GST legislation. Under these provisions, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) is liable for the payments and entitled to the receipts associated with GST. Therefore, the Authority's net GST receivable/payable is recorded in DEWNR's Statement of Financial Position. GST cash flows applicable to the Authority are recorded in DEWNR's Statement of Cash Flows.

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the Australian Taxation Office. If GST is not payable to, or recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, the commitments and contingencies are disclosed on a gross basis.

(g) Events after the reporting period

Adjustments are made to amounts recognised in the financial statements, where an event occurs after 30 June and before the date the financial statements are authorised for issue, where those events provide information about conditions that existed at 30 June.

Note disclosure is made about events between 30 June and the date the financial statements are authorised for issue where the events relate to a condition which arose after 30 June and which may have a material impact on the results of subsequent years.

(h) Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle even when they are not expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting date have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current

Where asset and liability line items combine amounts expected to be realised within 12 months and more than 12 months, the Authority has separately disclosed the amounts expected to be recovered or settled after more than 12 months.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

(i) Non-current Assets

Acquisition and recognition

Non-current assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Non-current assets are subsequently measured at fair value.

Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at their fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructuring of administrative arrangements then the assets are recognised at book value i.e. the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure.

All non-current tangible assets with a value over \$10,000 are capitalised.

Depreciation and amortisation

All non-current assets, having a limited useful life, are systematically depreciated/amortised over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate, on an annual basis.

Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate, which is a change in accounting estimate.

Land assets are not depreciated.

Depreciation/Amortisation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the following classes of assets as follows:

<u>Class of Asset</u>	<u>Useful Life (years)</u>
Computing equipment	3-10
Intangible Assets	3-17
Infrastructure	15-50
Plant and equipment	5-15
Vehicles	10-25
Furniture and fittings	5-15
Buildings and improvements	40
Other	10

Revaluation of Non Current Assets

All non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or group of assets is only performed when its fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

At least every five years, the Authority revalues its land, buildings and infrastructure via (an independent) Certified Practising Valuer.

If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place. Non-current tangible assets that are acquired between revaluations are held at cost until the next valuation, when they are revalued to fair value.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the net amounts are restated to the revalued amounts of the asset.

Upon disposal or derecognition, any revaluation surplus relating to that asset is transferred to retained earnings.

Impairment

The Authority holds its property, plant and equipment and intangible assets for their service potential (value in use). All non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value. Specialised assets would rarely be sold and typically any costs of disposal would be negligible, accordingly the recoverable amount will be close to or greater than fair value.

The Authority also expects for all other non-current tangible assets that any costs of disposal will be negligible, and the recoverable amount to be close to or greater than fair value.

Intangible Assets

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. Intangible assets are measured at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. The Authority only has intangible assets with finite lives. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for intangible assets is reviewed on an annual basis.

The acquisition or internal development of software is capitalised only when the expenditure meets the definition criteria (identifiability, control and the existence of future economic benefits) and recognition criteria (probability of future economic benefits and cost can be reliably measured) and when the amount of expenditure is greater than or equal to \$10,000.

All research and development costs that do not meet the capitalisation criteria outlined in AASB 138 are expensed.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Fair value measurement

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

The Authority classifies fair value measurement using the following fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements, based on the data and assumptions used in the most recent revaluation:

- Level 1 – traded in active markets and is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.
- Level 2 – not traded in an active market and are derived from inputs (inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1) that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 – not traded in an active market and are derived from unobservable inputs.

The valuation processes and fair value changes are reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer and Audit Committee at each reporting date.

In determining fair value, the Authority has taken into account the characteristic of the asset (e.g. condition and location of the asset and any restrictions on the sale or use of the asset) and the asset's highest and best use (that is physically possible, legally permissible, financially feasible).

The Authority's current use is the highest and best use of the asset unless other factors suggest an alternative use is feasible within the next five years. As the Authority did not identify any factors to suggest an alternative use, fair value measurement was based on current use.

The carrying amount of non-financial assets with a fair value at the time of acquisition that was less than \$1 million or an estimated useful life that was less than three years are deemed to approximate fair value.

Refer to note 19 and 21 for disclosure regarding fair value measurement techniques and inputs used to develop fair value measurements for non-financial assets.

(j) Liabilities

Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement. The Authority has entered into operating leases.

Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The straight-line basis is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

Lease Incentive

All incentives for the agreement of new or renewed operating leases are recognised as an integral part of the net consideration agreed for the use of the leased asset. Incentives received to enter into operating leases are recognised as a liability.

The aggregate benefit of lease incentives received by the Authority in respect of operating leases has been recorded as a reduction of rental expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Lease incentives in the form of leasehold improvements are capitalised as an asset and depreciated over the remaining term of the lease or estimated useful life of the improvement, whichever is shorter.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Employee benefits

These benefits accrue for employees as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Long-term employee benefits are measured at present value and short-term employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Salaries and wages, annual leave, skills and experience retention leave and sick leave

The liability for salary and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at reporting date.

The annual leave liability and the skills and experience retention leave (SERL) liability is expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement of sick leave.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave (LSL) is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

The estimated liability for LSL is based on actuarial assumptions over expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over SA Government entities.

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds with durations that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The unconditional portion of the long service leave provision is classified as current as the department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after reporting date. The unconditional portion of long service leave relates to an unconditional legal entitlement to payment arising after 10 years of service.

(k) Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingent assets and liabilities

Commitments include operating lease and expenditure commitments arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

The Authority has in place financial provisions which are required to cover environmental liabilities that may occur during the operating life of a licenced facility, or that may arise from or following the closure of a licenced facility. No value is assigned to these provisions for financial statement purposes as they will only be called upon in the event that the licensee fails to fulfill their obligations.

3 Financial Arrangements

DEWNR provides some professional, technical and administrative support to the Authority. The identifiable direct costs of providing these services are met by the Authority.

A memorandum of understanding was signed on 7 June 2017 between DEWNR and the Authority relating to the provision of these services.

The Authority's sources of funds consist of income derived primarily from fees, levies and licences. These fees, levies and licences include:

- waste levies from landfill depots
- environmental authorisation fees
- radiation licence fees
- fines and penalties
- section 7 enquiries.

The financial activities of the Authority are primarily conducted through deposit accounts with the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) pursuant to Section 8 and Section 21 of the PFAA. The deposit accounts are used for funds provided by Parliamentary appropriation together with revenues from services provided and from fees and charges.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

4 New and revised accounting standards and policies

The Authority did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2016-17.

Accounting Standards

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective, have not been adopted by the Authority for the period ending 30 June 2017.

AASB 16 Leases will apply for the first time for the year to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 Jan 2019. The amended standard introduces a single accounting model for lessees, eliminating the distinction between operating and finance leases.

The standard requires a lessee to recognise assets and liabilities for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value.

The lease liability will be initially recognised at an amount equal to the present value of the lease payments during the lease term that are not yet paid. Current operating lease payments will no longer be expensed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis. Rather, they will be apportioned between a reduction in the recognised lease liability and the implicit finance charge (the effective rate of interest) in the lease. The finance cost will be recognised as an expense.

It is anticipated that there will be a marginal impact on net result due to recognition of depreciation and interest on lease liabilities as expenses.

The classification of cash flows will be affected as operating lease payments will be split into a principal and interest portion which will be presented as financing and operating cash flows respectively. Currently, operating lease payments are presented as operating cash flows and recorded as commitments, which are not captured in the Statement of Financial Position.

The Authority has not yet quantified the impact of applying *AASB 16 Leases* to its operating lease arrangements and the resulting impact on the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position and the Commitments disclosure in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers will replace the existing *AASB 118 Revenue* and applies to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* introduces a five step process for revenue recognition with the core principle being to recognise revenue 'when control of a good or service transfers to a customer'. This is effectively when performance obligations have been met, rather than the former model of 'where the risk and rewards of ownership reside'. *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* will generally result in increased disclosures.

AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities will replace a number of income recognition requirements under *AASB 1004 Contributions* and applies to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The timing of income recognition depends on whether a transaction gives rise to a liability or other performance obligation (a promise to transfer a good or service), or a contribution by owners, related to an asset (such as cash or another asset) received by an entity. Where there is no liability to be recognised under another standard, or the liability is less than the fair value of the asset received then revenue is recognised.

The Authority has not yet quantified the impact of applying *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* and the resulting impact on the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The Authority has not yet assessed the impact of other new and amended standards and Interpretations and therefore is not able to quantify the impact on accounting policies or the financial statements of the Authority.

5 Activities of the Authority

The Authority, in 2016-17 was funded by fees and charges for the provision of environment protection, policy and regulatory services. In line with the objectives of establishing the Authority to focus on environment protection activities, the Authority conducts its services through a single program, Environment and Radiation Protection. The purpose of this program is to achieve a better environment for the wellbeing and prosperity of South Australians. As the Authority conducts its services through a single program, a Statement of Disaggregated Disclosures has not been prepared.

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

6 Employee benefits expenses

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Salaries and wages	17,282	17,219
TVSPs	-	100
LSL	368	1,157
Annual leave	1,723	1,664
SERL	86	96
Employment on-costs - superannuation	1,981	2,105
Employment on-costs - other	1,063	1,105
Board and committee fees	183	167
Workers compensation	230	275
Other employee related expenses	51	50
Total: Employee benefits expenses	22,967	23,938

TVSPs

Amount paid during the reporting period to separated employees:

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
TVSPs	-	100
Annual leave, LSL, SERL paid to those employees	-	45
Total	-	145
Recovery from the Department of Treasury and Finance	-	-
Net cost to Environment Protection Authority	-	145

The number of employees who received a TVSP during the reporting period was

2017	2016
-	1

Remuneration of employees

The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	2017 No. of employees	2016 No. of employees
\$145,000 – \$147,000	n/a	1
\$157,001 – \$167,000	1	-
\$167,001 – \$177,000	1	1
\$187,001 – \$197,000	1	2
\$207,001 – \$217,000	-	2
\$217,001 – \$227,000	1	-
\$257,001 – \$267,000 *	1	-
\$307,001 – \$317,000	1	1
Total	6	7

* Includes payment of annual leave, LSL, SERL and termination benefits for an officer that left the Authority.

The table includes all employees who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits. The total remuneration received by these employees for the year was \$1.315 million (\$1.447 million)

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

7 Supplies and services

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Accommodation and property management expenses	2,559	2,434
Consultants	-	6
Contractors	157	151
Fee for service	1,562	1,944
General administration	1,367	1,184
Information technology & communication expenses	546	441
Minor works, maintenance & equipment	371	330
Monitoring fees	71	147
Scientific and technical services	444	603
Staff development	288	294
Transportation	145	151
Travel and accommodation	214	248
Vehicle and aircraft	276	300
Other	304	246
Total: Supplies and services	8,304	8,479

Consultants

The number and dollar amount of consultancies paid/payable (included in supplies and services expense) that fell within the following bands:

	2017		2016	
	Number	\$'000	Number	\$'000
Below \$10,000	-	-	1	6
Total paid/payable to the consultants engaged	-	-	1	6

8 Depreciation and amortisation

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Buildings and Improvements	1	1
Computing Equipment	18	28
Furniture and Fittings	455	457
Vehicles	8	8
Infrastructure	23	23
Plant and Equipment	209	212
Intangible Assets	338	355
Total: Depreciation and Amortisation	1,052	1,084

9 Grants and subsidies

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Community Organisations and Associations	213	241
Conservation Council SA	11	11
Department of Education and Child Development	88	-
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources	89	98
Department of Premier and Cabinet	7	35
Local Government	187	118
Total: Grants and subsidies	595	503

10 Other expenses

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Bad and doubtful debts	8	25
Other *	141	114
Total: Other expenses	149	139

* Audit fees paid/payable to the Auditor-General's Department relating to work performed under the PFAA were \$0.134 million (\$0.109 million). No other services were provided by the Auditor-General's Department.

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

11 Revenues from fees and charges

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Fines and Penalties	239	264
Environmental Authorisation Fees	11,082	10,852
Radiation Licence Fees	3,088	3,265
Other Licence Fees	1,209	687
Waste Levies	27,948	22,883
Other fees and charges	72	73
Total: Fees and charges	43,638	38,024

Environmental Authorisation Fees received under the *Environment Protection Act 1993* are recognised as revenue when invoiced. All other license fees, including those received under the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982*, are recognised as revenue upon receipt. Waste Levies are recognised by the Authority on an accrual basis.

12 Grants and contributions

		2017	2016
		\$'000	\$'000
SA Government Grants	(i)	299	830
Commonwealth Government	(ii)	629	564
Private Industry and Community Grants	(iii)	267	117
Total: Grants and contributions		1,195	1,511

(i) State Government Grants and Contributions

		2017	2016
		\$'000	\$'000
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR)		42	559
Department of State Development		227	271
Adelaide & Mt Lofty NRM Board		30	-
		299	830

(ii) Commonwealth Government

		2017	2016
		\$'000	\$'000
Department of Industry, Innovation & Science		25	25
Department of the Environment and Energy		486	524
Murray Darling Basin Authority		118	15
		629	564

(iii) Private Industry and Community Grants

		2017	2016
		\$'000	\$'000
EPA NSW		44	41
EPA Victoria		32	32
EPA Other		30	48
Other		161	(4)
		267	117

Contributions are recognised as an asset and income when the Authority obtains control of the contributions or obtains the right to receive the contributions and the income recognitions criteria are met (i.e the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).

Generally, the Authority has obtained control or the right to receive for:

- Contributions with unconditional stipulations - this will be when the agreement becomes enforceable i.e the earlier of when the receiving entity has formally been advised that the contribution (e.g. grant application) has been approved; agreement/contract is executed; and/or the contribution is received.
- Contributions with conditional stipulations - this will be when the enforceable stipulations specified in the agreement occur or are satisfied; that is income would be recognised for contributions received or receivable under the agreement.

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Contributions with conditions of expenditure

Contributions which have conditions of expenditure still to be met as at reporting date were \$7.511million (\$7.433million).

The Authority is engaged in a variety of funding programs involving State and Commonwealth sources who provide monies to the Authority on the premise that these funds are expended in a manner consistent with the terms of the agreement. At reporting date these contributions relate to:

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Environment Protection Fund	6,941	7,008
AELERT	118	108
National Pollutant Inventory	9	10
Externally Funded Projects	36	53
Internally Funded Projects	407	254
	7,511	7,433

The Environment Protection Fund is established under section 24 of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. The Fund must be kept as directed by the Treasurer. Prescribed percentages of waste levies and licence fees are paid into the Fund under section 8 of the *Environment Protection Regulations 2009*. The Fund may be applied by the Minister or by the Authority with the approval of the Minister.

13 Interest revenues

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Interest from entities within the SA Government	97	126
Total: Interest revenues	97	126

14 Net gain/(loss) from the disposal of non-current assets

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Plant and equipment:		
Proceeds from disposal	-	-
Less: Net book value of assets disposed	-	(6)
Net gain/(loss) from disposal	-	(6)
Total: Assets		
Total proceeds from disposal	-	-
Less: Total value of assets disposed	-	(6)
Total: Net gain/(loss) from disposal of assets	-	(6)

15 Other income

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Salaries and wages recoveries	3	-
Other sundry revenue	11	30
Total: Other income	14	30

16 Revenues from/Payments to SA Government

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Payments to SA Government		
Return of surplus cash pursuant to cash alignment policy	5,802	6,275
Total payments to SA Government	5,802	6,275

There were no revenues from Government received for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

17 Cash and cash equivalents

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	14,660	8,563
Environment Protection Fund Deposit Account	6,941	7,008
Cash on hand/Imprest accounts	5	5
Total: Cash and Cash Equivalents	21,606	15,576

Cash is measured at nominal amounts

Interest rate risk

Deposits with the Treasurer and cash on hand is non-interest bearing. The Environment Protection Fund Deposit Account earns a floating interest rate, based on daily bank deposit rates.

18 Receivables

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Current:		
Receivables	5,690	4,755
Less: Allowance for doubtful debts	(9)	(51)
	5,681	4,704
Prepayments	114	84
Accrued revenues	8	11
Workers compensation recoveries	1	1
Total: current receivables	5,804	4,800
Non-Current:		
Workers compensation recoveries	3	2
Total: non-current receivables	3	2

Movement in allowance for doubtful debts

The allowance for doubtful debts (allowance for impairment loss) is recognised when there is objective evidence (i.e. calculated on past experience and current and expected changes in client credit rating) that a receivable is impaired.

An allowance for impairment loss has been recognised in other expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for specific debtors and debtors assessed on a collective basis for which such evidence exists.

Movements in the allowance for doubtful debts (impairment loss)

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	51	61
Increase in the allowance	8	25
Amounts written off	(50)	(35)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	9	51

Interest rate and credit risk

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. An allowance for doubtful debts is raised when there is objective evidence that the department will not be able to collect the debt. Other than as recognised in the allowance for doubtful debts, it is not anticipated that counterparties will fail to discharge their obligations. The carrying amount of receivables approximates net fair value due to being receivable on demand. There is no concentration of credit risk.

Refer to Note 34 for further information on risk management

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

19 Property, plant and equipment

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Land		
Independent valuation	278	278
Total: Land	<u>278</u>	<u>278</u>
Buildings and Improvements		
Independent valuation	40	40
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(26)	(25)
Total: Buildings and Improvements	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
Infrastructure		
Independent valuation	551	551
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(217)	(194)
Total: Infrastructure	<u>334</u>	<u>357</u>
Capital works in progress		
Capital works in progress	26	177
Total: Capital works in progress	<u>26</u>	<u>177</u>
Vehicles		
At cost (deemed fair value)	171	171
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(116)	(108)
Total: Vehicles	<u>55</u>	<u>63</u>
Computing equipment		
At cost (deemed fair value)	252	208
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(180)	(162)
Total: Computing equipment	<u>72</u>	<u>46</u>
Furniture and fittings		
Independent valuation	5,903	5,903
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,902)	(3,447)
Total: Furniture and fittings	<u>2,001</u>	<u>2,456</u>
Plant and equipment		
At cost (deemed fair value)	4,613	4,324
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,621)	(3,412)
Total: Plant and equipment	<u>992</u>	<u>912</u>
Other		
At cost (deemed fair value)	19	19
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(19)	(19)
Total: Other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total: Property, plant and equipment	<u><u>3,772</u></u>	<u><u>4,304</u></u>

Valuation of land

An independent valuation of land was performed in October and November 2013 by a Certified Practising Valuer from Valcorp Australia Pty Ltd, as at 1 July 2013.

The valuer arrived at fair value using the market approach. The valuation was based on recent market transactions for similar land in the area and includes factors specific to the land being valued such as size, location and current use.

Valuation of buildings and improvements, infrastructure and furniture and fittings

The valuation of buildings and improvements, infrastructure and furniture and fittings was performed in October and November 2013 by a Certified Practising Valuer from Valcorp Australia Pty Ltd, as at 1 July 2013.

As there is no active market for these, the valuer used the cost approach (i.e. depreciated replacement cost) taking into account the assets characteristics and restrictions. The valuation was based on a combination of internal records, specialised knowledge and market information about materials.

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Carrying amount of other items, vehicles, computing equipment and plant and equipment

All items of vehicles, computing equipment and plant and equipment had a fair value at the time of acquisition that was less than \$1 million or had an estimate useful life that was less than three years, and have not been revalued in accordance with APF III. The carrying value of these items are deemed to approximate fair value. These assets are classified in level 3 as there has been no subsequent adjustments to their value except for management assumptions about the asset condition and remaining useful life.

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment at 30 June 2017.

Asset Movement Reconciliation

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets is displayed in the following table.

Asset Movement Reconciliation 2016-2017

	Land \$'000	Buildings and Improvements \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Computing Equipment \$'000	Furniture and Fittings \$'000
Carrying amount at beginning of the period	278	15	357	63	46	2,456
Additions	-	-	-	-	44	-
Transfers to/(from) CWIP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	278	15	357	63	90	2,456
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:						
Depreciation / Amortisation expense	-	(1)	(23)	(8)	(18)	(455)
Subtotal	-	(1)	(23)	(8)	(18)	(455)
Carrying amount at end of the period	278	14	334	55	72	2,001

	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Capital Works in Progress \$'000	Tangible Assets Total \$'000	Intangible Assets \$'000	2017 Total \$'000
Carrying amount at beginning of the period	912	177	4,304	2,430	6,734
Additions	289	107	440	24	464
Transfers to/(from) CWIP	-	(258)	(258)	258	-
Subtotal	1,201	26	4,486	2,712	7,198
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:					
Depreciation / Amortisation expense	(209)	-	(714)	(338)	(1,052)
Subtotal	(209)	-	(714)	(338)	(1,052)
Carrying amount at end of the period	992	26	3,772	2,374	6,146

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Asset Movement Reconciliation 2015-2016

	Land \$'000	Buildings and Improvements \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Computing Equipment \$'000	Furniture and Fittings \$'000
Carrying amount at beginning of the period	278	16	350	71	74	2,913
Additions	-	-	30	-	-	-
Transfers to/(from) CWIP	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	278	16	380	71	74	2,913
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:						
Depreciation / Amortisation expense	-	(1)	(23)	(8)	(28)	(457)
Subtotal	-	(1)	(23)	(8)	(28)	(457)
Carrying amount at end of the period	278	15	357	63	46	2,456

	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Capital Works in Progress \$'000	Tangible Assets Total \$'000	Intangible Assets \$'000	2016 Total \$'000
Carrying amount at beginning of the period	858	2,154	6,714	541	7,255
Additions	272	195	497	72	669
Transfers to/(from) CWIP	-	(2,172)	(2,172)	2,172	-
Disposals	(6)	-	(6)	-	(6)
Subtotal	1,124	177	5,033	2,785	7,818
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:					
Depreciation / Amortisation expense	(212)	-	(729)	(355)	(1,084)
Subtotal	(212)	-	(729)	(355)	(1,084)
Carrying amount at end of the period	912	177	4,304	2,430	6,734

20 Intangible assets

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Internally developed intangible assets		
At cost (deemed fair value)	98	98
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(19)	(10)
Total: Internally developed intangible assets	79	88
Electronic Environment Licensing Forms (E-ELF)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	167	167
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(167)	(167)
Total: Electronic Environment Licensing Forms (E-ELF)	-	-
Integrated Information System (IIS)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	48	474
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(48)	(474)
Total: Integrated Information System (IIS)	-	-
General Environment Information System (GENI)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	1,948	1,948
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(1,660)	(1,587)
Total: General Environment Information System (GENI)	288	361

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	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Complaints and Reports of Environmental Significance System (CARES)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	308	308
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(293)	(279)
Total: Complaints and Reports of Environmental Significance System (CARES)	15	29
Licensing Administration Management Program (LAMP)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	1,544	1,486
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(304)	(149)
Total: Licensing Administration Management Program (LAMP)	1,240	1,337
Environment Licensing Forms (ELF)		
At cost (deemed fair value)		
Less: Accumulated amortisation	478	454
Total: Environment Licensing Forms (ELF)	(93)	(45)
EMP Masterpiece Interface (EMP)		
At cost (deemed fair value)	45	45
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(9)	(4)
Total: EMP Masterpiece Interface (EMP)	36	41
Other		
At cost (deemed fair value)	1,124	498
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(793)	(333)
Total: Other	331	165
Total: Intangible Assets	2,374	2,430

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of intangible assets at 30 June 2017.

21 Fair Value Measurement

Fair Value Hierarchy

The fair value of non-financial assets must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes. The Authority categorises non-financial assets measured at fair value into hierarchy based on the level of inputs used in measurement as follows:

Fair value measurements as at 30 June 2017

Recurring fair value measurements

	Level 3 \$'000
Land (note 19)	278
Buildings and Improvements (note 19)	14
Infrastructure (note 19)	334
Vehicles (note 19)	55
Computer equipment (note 19)	72
Furniture and fittings (note 19)	2,001
Plant and equipment (note 19)	992
Total: recurring fair value measurements	3,746

Fair value measurements as at 30 June 2016

Recurring fair value measurements

	Level 3 \$'000
Land (note 19)	278
Buildings and Improvement (note 19)	15
Infrastructure (note 19)	357
Vehicles (note 19)	63
Computer equipment (note 19)	46
Furniture and fittings (note 19)	2,456
Plant and equipment (note 19)	912
Total: recurring fair value measurements	4,127

During 2017 and 2016, the Authority had no valuations categorised into level 1; there were no transfers of assets between level 1 and 2 fair value hierarchy levels and there were no changes in valuation technique.

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22 Payables

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Current:		
Creditors	742	464
Accrued Expenses	206	176
Employment on-costs	477	456
Total: current payables	1,425	1,096
Non-Current:		
Employment on-costs	522	567
Total: non-current payables	522	567

Employment on-costs include payroll tax, WorkCover levies and superannuation contributions. The Authority makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the DTF, the proportion of long service leave taken as leave has remained unchanged from the 2016 rate of 40%. This rate is used in the employment on-cost calculation.

Interest rate and credit risk

Payables are measured at nominal amounts. Creditors and accruals are raised for all amounts owing but unpaid. Sundry creditors are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. Employment on-costs are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to is discharged. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to the amounts being payable on demand.

For further information on risk management refer to Note 34.

23 Employee benefits

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Current:		
Annual Leave	1,622	1,552
Long Service Leave	330	380
Accrued Salaries and Wages	344	276
Skills and experience retention leave	101	123
Total: Current Employee benefits	2,397	2,331
Non-Current:		
Long Service Leave	5,616	5,619
Total: Non-Current Employee benefits	5,616	5,619

AASB 119 contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability. The actuarial assessment performed by the DTF has provided a basis for the measurement of long service leave.

AASB 119 requires the use of the yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds as the discount rate in the measurement of the long service leave liability. The yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds has increased from 2016 (2%) to 2017 (2.5%).

This increase in the bond yield, which is used as the rate to discount future long service leave cash flows, results in a decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The net financial effect of the changes to actuarial assumptions in the current financial year is a decrease in the long service leave liability of \$0.241million and employee benefits expense of \$0.241million. The impact on future periods is impracticable to estimate as the long service leave liability is calculated using a number of demographical and financial assumptions – including the long-term discount rate.

The actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance left the salary inflation rate at 4% for long service leave liability and 3% for annual leave and skills, experience and and retention leave liability. As a result, there is no net financial effect resulting from changes in the salary inflation rate.

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24 Provisions

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Current:		
Provision for Workers Compensation	84	56
Total: Current Provisions	84	56
Non-Current:		
Provision for Workers Compensation	158	105
Total: Non-Current Provisions	158	105
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	161	40
Additional provisions recognised	81	121
Carrying amount at the end of the period	242	161

A liability has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment of the outstanding liability as at 30 June 2017 provided by a consulting actuary engaged through the Office for the Public Sector (a division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet). The provision is for the estimated cost of ongoing payments to employees as required under current legislation.

The Authority is responsible for the payment of workers compensation claims.

25 Other liabilities

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Current:		
Lease incentive	67	67
Other	21	11
Total: Current other liabilities	88	78
Non-Current:		
Lease incentive	378	444
Total: Non-current other liabilities	378	444

Lease liabilities are effectively secured as the rights to the leased assets revert to the lessor in the event of default.

26 Unrecognised contractual commitments

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Operating lease commitments:		
Commitments in relation to operating leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:		
Within one year	2,845	2,473
Later than one year but not later than five years	7,408	10,502
Later than five years	14,696	8,718
Total: Operating lease commitments	24,949	21,693
Representing:		
Non-cancellable operating leases	24,949	21,693
Total: Operating lease commitments	24,949	21,693

The operating leases held by the Authority are mainly property leases with penalty clauses equal to the amount of the residual payments remaining for the lease terms. The leases are payable one month in advance and the Authority has the right of renewal. There are no existing or contingent rental provisions.

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27 Contingent assets and liabilities

The Authority is not aware of the existence of any contingent assets or contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2017.

28 Prior period error corrections

An error correction relating to revenue from fees and charges and receivables of \$3.271 million has been reported in the Statement of Changes in Equity in respect of the 2014/15 financial year. The error correction has been retrospectively restated in accordance with AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, and comprised a derecognition of a receivable.

The Authority's comparative amounts have been restated to reflect the reporting of solid waste levy revenue and transfer thereof to GISA as administered items. The amounts reported for 2015/16 in Note 38 represent the financial impact of the corrections to the Authority's comparative amounts.

29 Remuneration of Board and Committee Members

Members during the 2017 financial year were:

Board of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Ms Linda Bowes
 Ms Roslyn DeGaris (resigned 22 Jan 2017)
 Mr Robert Fowler
 Mr Allan Holmes
 Dr Helen Macdonald
 Ms Christine Trenorden
 Mr Mark Withers
 Mr Tony Circelli *

Radiation Protection Committee

A/Prof Eva Bezak
 Mr Tony Circelli *
 Dr Pamela Sykes
 Ms Cara Miller
 Mr Nigel Spooner
 Mr Graeme Palmer
 Ms Sarah Constantine *
 Mr Ian Kirkwood *
 Mr Greg Marshall *
 Ms Iris O'Rourke

The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	2017	2016
	No. of members	No. of members
\$nil	11	9
\$1 - \$9,999	-	4
\$10,000 - \$19,999	1	-
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	7
\$30,000 - \$39,999	1	-
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	-
Total number of Board and Committee members	18	20

Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing board/committee member duties including sitting fees, super contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$0.197million (\$0.198million)

* In accordance with the Premier and Cabinet Circular No. 016, government employees did not receive any remuneration for board/committee duties during the financial year.

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30 Related Party Transactions

The Authority is a government administrative unit and is wholly owned and controlled by the Crown. Related parties of the Authority include all key management personnel and their close family members; all Cabinet Ministers and their close family members; and all public authorities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole of government financial statements and other interests of the Government.

Significant transactions with government related entities

The Authority had significant transactions with Green Industries SA (GISA) - refer to Note 38

Collectively, but not individually significant transactions with government related entities.

Quantitative information about transactions and balances between the Authority and other SA Government entities are disclosed at Note 32.

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel of the Authority include the Minister, the Chief Executive Officer, EPA Board Members and the six members of the Executive Team who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Authority. Two key management personnel left the Authority during the 2016/17 financial year. The compensation detailed below excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives, the Minister's remuneration and allowances set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account (via DTF) under section 6 the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

Compensation	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Salaries and other short term employee benefits	1,412	n/a
Post-employment benefits	138	n/a
Termination Benefits	118	n/a
Total	1,668	N/A

31 Cash flow reconciliation

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		
Cash and cash equivalents disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position	21,606	15,576
Cash and cash equivalents disclosed in the Statement of Cash Flows	21,606	15,576
Reconciliation of net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities to net benefit / (cost) of providing services		
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	6,494	369
Add payments to SA Government	5,802	6,275
Add/less non cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(1,052)	(1,084)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of assets	-	(6)
Movement in assets and liabilities		
Increase/(decrease) in receivables	1,005	405
Decrease/(increase) in payables	(284)	378
Decrease/(increase) in employee benefits	(63)	(907)
Decrease/(increase) in provisions	(81)	(121)
Decrease/(increase) in other liabilities	56	233
Net benefit/(cost) of providing services	11,877	5,542

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32 Transactions with SA Government

The following table discloses revenues, expenses, financial assets and liabilities where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Note	SA Government		Non-SA Government		Total		
	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000	
	Expenses						
6	Employee benefits expenses	1,068	1,111	21,899	22,827	22,967	23,938
7	Supplies and services						
	Accommodation and property management	2,437	2,358	122	76	2,559	2,434
	Consultants	-	-	-	6	-	6
	Contractors	-	-	157	151	157	151
	Fee for service	212	238	1,350	1,706	1,562	1,944
	General administration	929	851	438	333	1,367	1,184
	Information technology & communication	156	151	390	290	546	441
	Minor works, maintenance & equipment	3	-	368	330	371	330
	Monitoring fees	-	-	71	147	71	147
	Scientific and technical services	70	81	374	522	444	603
	Staff development	9	-	279	294	288	294
	Transportation	97	-	48	151	145	151
	Travel and accommodation	2	-	212	248	214	248
	Vehicle and aircraft	233	260	43	40	276	300
	Other	3	-	301	246	304	246
8	Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	1,052	1,084	1,052	1,084
9	Grants and subsidies	184	133	411	370	595	503
10	Other expenses						
	Bad and doubtful debts	-	-	8	25	8	25
	Other (excluding audit fees)	-	-	7	5	7	5
10	Auditor's remuneration	134	109	-	-	134	109
16	Payments to SA Government	5,802	6,275	-	-	5,802	6,275
	Total Expenses	11,339	11,567	27,530	28,851	38,869	40,418
	Income						
11	Revenues from fees and charges						
	Fines and Penalties	7	10	232	254	239	264
	Environmental Authorisation Fees	2,200	2,188	8,882	8,664	11,082	10,852
	Radiation Licence Fees	2	361	3,086	2,904	3,088	3,265
	Other Licence Fees	10	3	1,199	684	1,209	687
	Waste Levies	-	-	27,948	22,883	27,948	22,883
	Other fees and charges	-	-	72	73	72	73
12	Grants and contributions	299	830	896	681	1,195	1,511
13	Interest revenues	97	126	-	-	97	126
14	Net gain/(loss) from the disposal of non-current assets	-	-	-	(6)	-	(6)
15	Other income						
	Salaries and wages recoveries	3	-	-	-	3	-
	Other sundry revenue	2	13	9	17	11	30
	Total Income	2,620	3,531	42,324	36,154	44,944	39,685
	Financial Assets						
18	Receivables						
	Receivables	18	3	5,663	4,701	5,681	4,704
	Prepayments	-	-	114	84	114	84
	Accrued revenues	8	11	-	-	8	11
	Workers compensation recoveries	-	-	4	3	4	3
	Total Financial Assets	26	14	5,781	4,788	5,807	4,802
	Financial Liabilities						
22	Payables						
	Creditors	106	138	636	326	742	464
	Accrued Expenses	154	131	52	45	206	176
	Employment on-costs	999	1,023	-	-	999	1,023
	Total Financial Liabilities	1,260	1,293	687	370	1,947	1,663

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33 Budgetary reporting and explanations of major variances between budget and actual amounts

The following are brief explanations of variances between original budget and actual amounts. Explanations are provided for variances where the variance exceeds the greater of 10% of the original budgeted amount and 5% of original budgeted total expenses.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	Original Budget¹ 2017 \$'000	Restated Budget² 2017 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Expenses				
Employee benefits expenses	22,929	22,929	22,967	38
Supplies and services	8,425	8,425	8,304	(121)
Depreciation and amortisation	780	780	1,052	272
Grants and subsidies	28,484	727	595	(132)
Other expenses	122	122	149	27
Total expenses	60,740	32,983	33,067	84
Income				
Revenues from fees and charges	71,750	43,993	43,638	(355)
Grants and contributions	822	822	1,195	373
Interest revenues	102	102	97	(5)
Other income	-	-	14	14
Total income	72,674	44,917	44,944	27
Net cost (benefit) of providing services	(11,934)	(11,934)	(11,877)	57
Revenues from/Payments to SA Government				
Payments to SA Government	-	-	5,802	5,802
Total payments to SA Government	-	-	5,802	5,802
Net result	11,934	11,934	6,075	(5,859)
Total comprehensive result	11,934	11,934	6,075	(5,859)

Administered Items

Statement of Comprehensive Income	Original Budget¹ 2017 \$'000	Restated Budget² 2017 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Expenses				
Solid waste levies transferred to GISA	-	27,757	27,176	(581)
Expiation fees (Dob in a Litterer) transferred to Consolidated Account	-	-	1	1
Total expenses	-	27,757	27,177	(580)
Income				
Solid Waste Levies	-	27,757	27,467	(290)
Expiation Fees (Dob in a Litterer)	-	-	1	1
Total income	-	27,757	27,468	(289)
Net cost (benefit) of providing services	-	-	(291)	(291)
Net result	-	-	291	291
Total comprehensive result	-	-	291	291

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¹The budget process is not subject to audit. Budget information refers to the amounts presented to Parliament in the original budgeted financial statements in respect of the reporting period (2016-17 Budget Paper 4). These original budgeted amounts have been presented and classified on a basis that is consistent with line items in the financial statements. However, these amounts have not been adjusted to reflect revised budgets or administrative restructures/machinery of government changes.

²The original budget has been restated to reflect the Authority's reporting in 2016/17 of solid waste levies and *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016* - Dob in a Litterer revenue as administered items.

- (a) Payments to SA Government was greater than original budget due to a review of the Authority's operating account balances as at 30 June 2016 in accordance with the cash alignment policy. The amount of surplus cash as advised by the DTF was \$5.802 million.

Investing expenditure summary	Note	Original budget ¹ 2017 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Total annual programs	b	565	464	(101)
Total investing expenditure		565	464	(101)

- (b) Investing expenditure for annual programs was under the original budget. This was mainly due to a transfer of funds to the operating budget as approved by DTF.

34 Financial risk management/Financial instruments

34.1 Financial risk management

Risk management is managed by the Authority's corporate services section and the Authority's risk management policies are in accordance with the Risk Management Policy Statement issued by the Premier and Treasurer and the principles established in the *Australian Standard Risk Management Principles and Guidelines*.

The Authority's exposure to financial risk – (liquidity risk, credit risk and market risk) is low due to the nature of the financial instruments held.

Liquidity risk

The Authority is funded principally from revenue received from licence fees and waste levies. The Authority works with DTF to determine the cash flows associated with its Government approved program of work and to ensure funding is provided through SA Government budgetary processes to meet the expected cash flows.

Refer to Note 22.

Credit Risk

The Authority does not trade in foreign currency, enter into transactions for speculative purposes, nor for hedging. The Authority does not undertake any hedging in relation to interest or foreign currency risk and manages its risk as per the Government's risk management strategy articulated in TI 23 Management of Foreign Currency Exposures.

No collateral is held as security and no credit enhancements relate to financial assets held by the Authority.

Refer to Notes 17 and 18 for further information.

There have been no changes in risk exposure since the last reporting period.

34.2 Categorisation of financial instruments

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in Note 2.

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and liabilities: Held-to-maturity investments; loan and receivables; and financial liabilities measured at cost, are detailed below:

The Authority does not recognise any financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value, but does disclose fair value in the notes. All of the resulting fair value estimates are included in level 2 as all significant inputs required are observable.

The carrying value less impairment provisions of receivables and payables is a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to the short-term nature of these (refer Notes 18 and 22).

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Categorisation and maturity analysis of financial assets and liabilities

Category of financial asset and financial liability	Note number	2017 Carrying amount / Fair value \$'000	2016 Carrying amount / Fair value \$'000	2017 Contractual maturities			
				Current \$'000	Within 1 year \$'000	1-5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
Financial assets							
Cash and equivalent							
Cash and cash equivalent	17	21,606	15,576	21,606	-	-	-
Loans and receivables							
Receivables (1) (2)	18	54	61	54	-	-	-
Total financial assets		21,660	15,637	21,660	-	-	-
Financial liabilities							
Financial liabilities at cost							
Payables (1)	22	794	509	794	-	-	-
Total financial liabilities		794	509	794	-	-	-

(1) Receivable and payable amounts disclosed here exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables (eg Commonwealth, State and Local Govt taxes, fees and charges; Auditor-General's Department audit fees). In government, certain rights to receive or pay cash may not be contractual and therefore in these situations, the requirements will not apply. Where rights or obligations have their source in legislation such as levies , tax and equivalents etc they would be excluded from the disclosure. The standard defines contract as enforceable by law. All amounts recorded are carried at cost (not materially different from amortised cost).

(2) Receivables amount disclosed here excludes prepayments. Prepayments are presented in Note 18 as trade and other receivables in accordance with paragraph 78(b) of AASB 101. However, prepayments are not financial assets as defined in AASB 132 as the future economic benefit of these assets is the receipt of goods and services rather than the right to receive cash or another financial asset.

35 Events after the reporting period

There were no events that occurred after the reporting period for the year ended 30 June 2017.

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36 The Environment Protection Fund

The following is a summary of the amounts included in the Fund. In reflecting these amounts in the Authority's financial statements, transactions between the Fund and the Authority have been eliminated.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses		
Employee benefits	303	301
Supplies and services	3,189	2,697
Grants and subsidies	18	47
Total: Expenses	<u>3,510</u>	<u>3,045</u>
Income		
Fees and Charges	3,424	3,095
Interest revenue	97	127
Total: Income	<u>3,521</u>	<u>3,222</u>
Net result	<u>11</u>	<u>177</u>

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,941	7,008
Receivables	392	326
Total: Current Assets	<u>7,333</u>	<u>7,334</u>
Total: Assets	<u>7,333</u>	<u>7,334</u>
Current liabilities		
Payables	99	111
Total: Current Liabilities	<u>99</u>	<u>111</u>
Total: Liabilities	<u>99</u>	<u>111</u>
Net Assets	<u>7,234</u>	<u>7,223</u>
Equity		
Retained earnings	7,234	7,223
Total: Equity	<u>7,234</u>	<u>7,223</u>

Environment Protection Authority
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For the year ended 30 June 2017

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 30 June 2015	7,046	7,046
Net result for 2015-16	177	177
Balance at 30 June 2016	7,223	7,223
Net result for 2016-17	11	11
Balance at 30 June 2017	7,234	7,234

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash inflows		
Fees and charges	3,354	3,096
Interest received	101	127
Cash generated from operations	3,455	3,223
Cash outflows		
Employee benefit payments	(303)	(301)
Payments for supplies and services	(3,201)	(2,814)
Grant and contribution payments	(18)	(47)
Cash used in operations	(3,522)	(3,162)
Net Cash inflows (Outflows) from operating activities	(67)	61
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(67)	61
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	7,008	6,947
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	6,941	7,008

37 Radiation Protection Function

The administrative unit has responsibility for radiation protection functions under the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982*.

The following summarises income and expenditure attributable to radiation protection functions within the administrative unit excluding the allocation of overheads. In reflecting these amounts in the Authority's financial statements, transactions between Radiation Protection and the Statutory Authority have been eliminated.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2017

Radiation Protection Division

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Expenses		
Employee benefits	1,460	1,375
Supplies and Services	118	88
Total: Expenses	1,578	1,463
Income		
Radiation license fees	3,088	3,265
Sales	13	19
Grants and contributions	26	25
Total: Income	3,127	3,309
Net result	1,549	1,846

Environment Protection Authority
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For the year ended 30 June 2017

38 Administered Items

The following is a summary of the amounts captured as Administered Items of the Authority which comprises Solid Waste Levies received and transferred to Green Industries SA and revenue received under the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Expenses		
Solid waste levies transferred to GISA	27,176	22,175
Expiation fees (Dob in a Litterer) transferred to Consolidated Account	1	-
Total: Expenses	27,177	22,175
Income		
Solid waste levies	27,467	22,234
Expiation Fees (Dob In a Litterer)	1	-
Total: Income	27,468	22,234
Net result	291	59

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1	-
Receivables	3,821	3,330
Total: Current Assets	3,822	3,330
Total: Assets	3,822	3,330
Current liabilities		
Payables	1	-
Total: Current Liabilities	1	-
Total: Liabilities	1	-
Net Assets	3,821	3,330
Equity		
Retained earnings	3,821	3,330
Total: Equity	3,821	3,330

Environment Protection Authority
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2017

Statement of Changes In Equity for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 30 June 2015	3,271	3,271
Net result for 2015-16	59	59
Balance at 30 June 2016	3,330	3,330
Net result for 2016-17	291	291
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u>3,621</u>	<u>3,621</u>

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash outflows		
Solid waste levies transferred to GISA	(27,176)	(22,175)
Cash used in operations	<u>(27,176)</u>	<u>(22,175)</u>
Cash inflows		
Solid waste levies received	27,176	22,175
Expiation fees (Dob in a Litterer)	1	-
Cash generated from operations	<u>27,177</u>	<u>22,175</u>
Net Cash provided by operating activities	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
#	Number
ACWQIP	Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan
AELERT	Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators Network
ARPANSA	Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency
AVS	Audit and Verification System
BDO	BDO Australia
CARA	Nuclear Royal Commission Consultation and Response Agency
CARES	Complaints and Reports of Environmental Significance reporting system
CRG	Community Reference Group
CUO	Clean-up Order
DAIP	Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
DDA	<i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i>
DPC	Department of the Premier and Cabinet
DPTI	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EP Act	<i>Environment Protection Act 1993</i>
EPO	Environment Protection Order
ERT	Emergency Response Team
FAQ	Frequently asked questions
FTE	Full-time equivalent
LGA	Local Government Association
NGO	Non-government organisation
P&D Code	Planning and Design Code
PDI Act	<i>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016</i>
PIRSA	(Department of) Primary Industries and Regions South Australia
POMS	Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome
RPC Act	<i>Radiation Protection and Control Act 1982</i>
RP Committee	Radiation Protection Committee
SASP	South Australia's Strategic Plan
SPPs	State Planning Policies
TCE	trichloroethene
WHS Act	<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012</i>
WHS&IM	Work health safety & injury management
WP Act	<i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993</i>